

THE TIMES



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THE TIMES

Monday

Feed...
Salman Rushdie. Booker Prize winner for his novel of India, *Midnight's Children*, has focused his new book on Pakistan, against the background of the feud between President Zia and executed Prime Minister Bhutto. As Karachi erupts again, Spectrum presents the first of three extracts from *Shame*, to be published next month.



... for Sport
The start of the football season, the Fourth Test, the Dutch Grand Prix, athletics in Cologne, 11 race meetings, showjumping at Hickstead - it's the biggest sporting weekend of the year.

Hare today...
Modern Times doggedly pursues the delights of greyhound racing.

Pound slips against the dollar

The pound lost ground against a strong dollar yesterday, slipping 65 points to close at \$1.5015, having fallen below \$1.50 at one stage.

However, it recovered against continental currencies Page 11

Court challenge on 'open skies'

The High Court has granted British Airways the right to challenge the Government's "open skies" policy designed to encourage airline competition. A hearing is expected in October Page 2

Escape control

After discovering a series of escape tunnels under a camp housing Arab prisoners at Ansar, south Lebanon, the Israeli Army has moved all 5,000 inmates to a temporary compound until a permanent camp is completed Page 6

Cardinal ill

Cardinal Terence Cooke, aged 62, Archbishop of New York, is terminally ill with leukemia and could die within "a matter of months", the archdiocese announced.

Angola mission

Señor Javier Pérez de Cuellar, UN Secretary General met a bizarre reception in Luanda, Angola, as he arrived for talks on Namibia Page 6

Petrol stamps

Trading stamps which can be redeemed against package holidays are to be offered at 400 garages and filling stations in Wales and the West Country Page 3

Jails threat

Prison officers in Northern Ireland are threatening an overtime ban which will mean police being drafted in on Monday to run jails.

Kidnap victim freed Page 2

Scientific talks

The meetings on the last day of the conference on the British Association for the Advancement of Science are reported on page 4.

Sind violence

All police leave has been cancelled in Sind province as the Pakistani authorities prepare for a possible third week of violent demonstrations Page 6

Cook triumphs

Spin bowler Nick Cook put England in a commanding position in the fourth Cornhill Test match yesterday as he cut through the New Zealand first innings Report, page 16

Leader page 9
Letters: On BAOR, from Vice-Admiral Sir Ian McGeoch, and Mr M. Chichester, Lord's pictures, from Mr E. W. Swanton. Leading articles: Mr E. W. Swanton, Madrid conference; British earthquakes Features, page 8
The Tolstor in Stalin's pocket: Roy Strong takes a trunk round and Peter Nichols takes the train

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Soviet deal depends on Nato retreat over cruise Andropov offers to destroy SS20s moved from Europe

From Richard Owen, Moscow

President Andropov has offered to "liquidate a considerable number" of Soviet SS20 missiles as part of an overall agreement on the reduction of medium-range missiles in Europe.

His move came in an interview in today's issue of *Pravda*, released in advance by Tass. He said that provided the US did not deploy new missiles in Europe in December, the Soviet Union would reduce the number of medium-range missiles in European Russia "to the level equal to the number of missiles of Britain and France".

In doing so it would "liquidate all the missiles to be reduced", including a "considerable number of the most modern missiles, known in the West."

Mr Andropov said his offer showed that Nato allegations that Russia would merely re-locate its missiles in the Soviet far east were "totally groundless". There were therefore no grounds whatever for fears expressed by China and Japan.

Diplomats said the Kremlin had previously only undertaken to remove its missiles beyond the Urals, not to destroy them.

Mr Andropov described his latest initiative as being of "exceptional importance" and a

"new manifestation of good will" by the Soviet Union.

Western diplomats commented that although the offer held out some hope of progress at the Geneva talks, which resume on September 6, it was still conditional on a Nato agreement not to deploy cruise and Pershing 2 weapons and on the inclusion of British and French missiles in the talks.

Both Soviet standpoints have been rejected repeatedly by the Western powers.

Mr Andropov offered last December to balance medium-range missiles against the nuclear forces of Britain and France, which Nato regards as independent deterrents.

He subsequently clarified this to mean that Moscow would count missile warheads rather than launchers, a bone of contention at Geneva, since SS20s have three independently-targeted warheads.

In the *Pravda* interview Mr Andropov dismissed claims that Washington had shown flexibility at Geneva, saying this was a "mockery of common sense".

If Russia reduced its medium-range missiles while allowing Nato to move new missiles into Europe to balance against the remaining Soviet rockets "we would not only

have unilaterally reduced our arsenal... but also have given our blessing to new American missiles targeted against us and our allies".

The Soviet leader gave no hint of what measures Moscow would take if the Geneva talks broke down and the Nato deployments went ahead in December.

Mr Andropov said an agreement at Geneva was still possible. One would not have to wait long if Nato was prepared for an agreement on equal terms, he said.

He indicated that he saw no reason to include China or Japan in the talks, since missile deployments in the eastern part of Russia were "completely irrelevant" to their subject matter.

Diplomats said further Soviet manoeuvring could be expected before the early resumption of the Geneva talks requested by Moscow.

The offer to destroy some SS20s was an advance on the position taken in April by Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Foreign Minister, who said that whether SS20s would be relocated or destroyed would be a matter for negotiation.

Japan rearms, page 4
Malta sidestepped, page 6
Leading article, page 9



Man and missile: President Yuri Andropov and the SS20, a "considerable number" of which he has promised to destroy.

Challenge yachts get 'all clear'

By David Miller
Newport, Rhode Island

The New York Yacht Club yesterday climbed down on all controversial points involving the Australian and British yachts involved in the America's Cup challenge series elimination finals to commence tomorrow.

A statement issued by Mr Robert Stone, the commodore of the prestigious NYYC which has held the trophy for 130 years, said that all matters were resolved.

This statement brings to a close a period of sustained hostility conducted by NYYC against the foreign challengers, which has caused more ill-feeling than any of the controversies which have been a feature of the competition down the years.

Cardowan, the last remaining pit in Lanarkshire was earmarked for closure by the NCB because of geological difficulties, and a collapse in markets that meant the pit was heading for a £10m loss this year.

Miners have been offered redundancy, early retirement or offered jobs in the Fifie coalfield, with about 150 of the 800 at the pit being kept on for the salvage work. The NCB said last night that it was pleased by the vote and would now concentrate on relocating miners to other jobs. Miners with up to 35 years' service could qualify for £15,000 pay-offs with about £100 a week until they reach retirement age.

A special meeting of the South Wales NUM executive heard the Cardowan vote before taking its decision and was influenced by the news from Scotland, according to Mr Emlyn Williams, the South Wales union president.

He said that if the 639 Brynlliw miners call next Wednesday for industrial action, they will have full union backing.

Shopkeeper's 17 'disasters'

Unluckiest man in France

From Diana Geddes, Paris

A few weeks after that, it caught fire and was then stolen on four different occasions, each time being returned even more badly damaged. Twice, a lorry dumped its entire load on his bonnet.

He bought a cement mixer to repair his house, only to have it crushed by a car whose driver had lost control.

Even his billiard table was smashed to bits after being dropped by a removal firm. At around the same time, he suffered his fourteenth bone fracture while playing rugby.

Illingworth wants to quit Yorkshire fray

By Richard Streeton

Yorkshire cricket was threatened with its biggest turmoil so far when Raymond Illingworth offered to resign as captain and manager yesterday. He was sick and tired, he said, of the "agro" he and his family have had since returning to the county, and he specifically mentioned in this context the pro-Boycott faction.

"If Yorkshire will pay me up on my contract I will leave now", he said at Scarborough before the start of Yorkshire's match with Gloucestershire. "I do not see why I should be playing first-class cricket at 51 to try to help Yorkshire and at the same time have to put up

with a constant barrage of attacks from Boycott supporters."

Illingworth's outburst followed a demand from Sid Fielden, a Yorkshire committee member and Barnsley detective sergeant, that the club's general committee investigate what was termed in a letter to Yorkshire's chairman, Michael Crawford, "an unsolicited attack on Boycott". This was a reference to Illingworth's action in reporting Boycott to the club for slow scoring in a game at Cheltenham 10 days ago.

Boycott was later reprimanded by Yorkshire's so-called peacekeeping committee,

Challenge yachts get 'all clear'

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

One of Mr David Steel's prime adversaries in his confrontation with Liberal activists yesterday accused his leader of adopting a "dictatorial, Thatcher-type" approach to the party.

Mr Tony Greaves, full-time organizing secretary for the Association of Liberal Councillors, said that in the past, when the party had been smaller, the leader had been elevated out of all proportion to the point at which he had been regarded as a Prime Ministerial figure within the party.

But Mr Greaves commented in an interview on BBC radio's *One* programme: "Liberalism is about cooperation, developing a consensus and leadership by example and motivation, and not the dictatorial Thatcher-type leadership."

"The problem is that we have got to match the two together. The time has come to develop a much more cooperative leadership."

In a letter this week to the other Liberal MPs, Mr Steel illustrated complaints about party indiscipline and "sloppiness" by citing a bulletin produced by the association during the general election.

"We have now received verification from the international Yacht Racing Union that an interpretative ruling respecting the design of the British keel was issued in 1982", Mr Stone said: "That ruling under the IYR regulations is controlling for the 1983 match and the NYYC accepts it as such - also that the ruling applies to the keel of Australia II."

Elimination races page 15

Holidaymakers see pilot's death plunge

An RAF pilot died yesterday after guiding his stricken jet away from hundreds of holidaymakers on the east coast. Crowds on Scarborough's North Bay beach watched as the Lightning plunged into the sea 200 yards offshore.

Eye-witnesses said that the aircraft, from RAF Binbrook in Lincolnshire, had made several low-level passes over the beach when its engines failed.

An RAF spokesman said that the pilot's name would not be released until next of kin had been informed. Meanwhile, Britain looked all set for its busiest Bank Holiday on the roads, with millions of people heading for the coast, the Automobile Association predicted yesterday.

With forecasters promising good weather almost everywhere, roads to the seaside and other tourist centres were already jammed last night. "We are in for an old-fashioned bumper-to-bumper weekend", said an AA spokesman.

TV-am takes peak breakfast ratings lead

TV-am's ratings revolution, induced by Roland Rat, pushed the commercial station in front of its BBC rival. Breakfast Time, for the first time during peak breakfast viewing last week.

Figures produced by BARB, the independent ratings analysts, gave TV-am a peak audience of 1.2 million before 9am, 100,000 more than the BBC programme.

Mr Greg Dyke, TV-am's editor-in-chief, acknowledged that the lead was due to the station's popularity with schoolchildren, largely through the puppet character, Roland Rat.

Vauxhall men to block imports

From Our Correspondent Liverpool

Vauxhall car workers have launched a nationwide operation to stop the import of General Motors vehicles in an attempt to force the company to increase a pay offer.

The action comes after union leaders representing men at the Company's plants in Ellesmere Port, Cheshire, and Bedford rejected a 5 per cent offer.

After Thursday's stoppage by 1,800 Transport and General Workers' Union members at Ellesmere Port, which cost £450,000 in lost production, 2,400 Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers men walked out on strike yesterday after a meeting bringing production to a halt.

The two sets of workers both voted unanimously to boycott further pay talks with the company, and organize a block on imports of General Motors vehicles. They are demanding £25 across the board.

The action will affect half of Vauxhall's 15 per cent share of the market, and include the Nova, Carlton and the entire Opel range, which are built in Spain and West Germany.

The TGWU convener at Ellesmere Port, Mr John Farrell, said: "Talks have already begun at executive level in the union to organize the blockade."

"Support is guaranteed and we will be hitting the company where they are most profitable. General Motors makes £1,000 more profit on a foreign-made Astria than one made in Britain."

"They have seriously underestimated the intelligence of the workforce at Ellesmere Port. For the past year they have been calling us supermen because we have achieved record efficiency and productivity levels while they make money hand over fist."

"We have kept pace with Germany and the massive investment there, but a 5 per cent offer is the last straw. An assembly line worker here gets £107 basic before stoppages. In Germany the equivalent is £180."

"The men are very angry and if it means going down to the dock gates to stop the imports ourselves we are prepared to do that and go."

A company spokesman said the afternoon walkout at Ellesmere Port by 2,400 AUEW workers had cost £5 cars, but it expected things back to normal for today's overtime shift.

At Luton the workers went home for an extended holiday weekend after expressing disgust at the pay offer.

The company document told the workers that the emphasis in the offer was in maintaining job security.

"Times are hard on the Bedfords side of the business and are likely to remain so for several years. This just cannot be eliminated from the total picture."

Leading article, page 9

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The Brown Shipley Investment Portfolio makes investing in the long-term growth of the world's leading stocks and shares a reality for all.

'Open skies' policy faces challenge in court from British Airways

By David Nicholson-Lord

British Airways yesterday was given the right to challenge in court the Government's "open skies" policy, designed to open the state airline's services to private competition.

At a hearing in the High Court, BA was given permission to seek judicial review of the Civil Aviation Authority's decision earlier this month to allow British Midland Airways a share of the shuttle route between Heathrow and Belfast.

The BMA service would undercut BA's shuttle by £3.50 per journey.

Full hearing of the case is not expected until early October, when BMA was planning to start its shuttle. The private airlines, which unsuccessfully joined forces with the CAA in court yesterday to prevent BA's application, said its service would go ahead as planned.

A BMA spokesman said there would be further recourse to the courts if the state airline dragged its feet. "We shall exercise our rights to make further applications to the courts if necessary to make them get a move on with their case," he added.

Yesterday's legal move by BA had attracted widespread attention because it bypassed the

established channel of appeal to seek the CAA's decision to Mr Tom King, the Secretary of State for Transport. He was reported to be embarrassed by the airline's apparent challenge to the Government's policy, only two years before it is due for privatization.

Mr John Perry, BA's director of public affairs, said after the hearing that the Department of Transport had been kept informed and denied that BA's move had embarrassed the Government. "All civil aviation throughout the world is covered by law and Government regulations. We are concerned with a point of law.

"If the go-sports are going to be moved in the middle of the game then we need to know what is happening."

Mr Justice Nolan granted the application after Mr Peter Scott, QC, claimed that the CAA had wrongly interpreted the Civil Aviation Act 1982, which embodies the "open skies" Act of 1980.

Mr Scott said that the CAA had read section four and 68 of the Act as "imposing a bias in favour of competition." This was not the case.

"The Act is not saying that

where practicable competition

should be introduced. This is a balancing exercise. It is of crucial importance when one is dealing with an air transport licence on route where another operator has already been licensed to have regard to the fact that they will have incurred very substantial expenses in providing facilities."

By bringing in a second operator "you are undoubtedly likely to cause economic problems for existing users", he said.

Even if BA appealed through the normal channels to Mr King, this would not clear up the point of law at issue and would result in continued uncertainty, Mr Scott added.

BA says the new BMA shuttle would take away more than one third of its passengers, turn its shuttle network into loss and threaten the Belfast service with closure. BMA has already taken one-third of the state airline's customers on the Edinburgh and Glasgow shuttles while Dan-Air is proposing to operate a shuttle between London and Manchester.

The judge yesterday described the application as of "undoubted urgency" and importance, both commercially and to the travelling public.

Private telephone system for Kodak

By John Lawless

Work on the installation of Britain's first private national telephone network began this month when Kodak set up exchanges at six of its offices.

"Our four sales centres, at Glasgow, Manchester, Birmingham and Bristol, have had the equipment installed", a spokesman for the photographic supplies company said yesterday, "as have the chemical division at Kirby, Liverpool, and our northern distribution centre at Manchester.

"Our main distribution centre at Hemel Hempstead (Hertfordshire) will join the new system next month, and a total of 13 sites will be linked by August 1984."

The Kodak system is the first to be commissioned since the Government ended British Telecom's monopoly over the telephone networks.

Telephone Rentals - which is leasing the equipment, supplied by Plessey, under a 10-year contract at £500,000 a year - said yesterday that it has signed a "comparable deal" with National Westminster Bank.

That will also link 13 of the banks' main offices throughout the country, but with the equipment being bought outright for £2.5m.

When Kodak's system is fully operational, 250,000 calls will be made each week between 5,000 telephone sets distributed throughout the country.

Only one extension is required for each desk, though, because the same equipment

Jobs offer ends yard dispute

Highland Fabricators management says production will resume on Monday at the oil platform yard at Nigg near Inverness. The company has offered jobs to 1,600 of the 2,000 men dismissed last week in an unofficial dispute over the withdrawal of free orange juice supplied during hot weather.

However, shop stewards at the yard say a mass picket will seek to turn back any workers accepting the management's offer of jobs.

The company initially planned to resume work tomorrow night but transport difficulties have forced the cancellation of the Sunday shift.

Management officials have been recruiting men at several job centres throughout the week. By Thursday, more than 400 had signed up and there was "considerable activity" at offices yesterday, a management spokesman claimed.

Only workers selected "on merit" have been offered their jobs back under new agreements that include the loss of free transport to and from work and shower facilities during working hours.

In return, the men have been promised a 4.5 per cent pay rise next year. The management says the new terms will save the company £1.4m a year.

However, officials of the unions involved, the engineers', the electricians' and the boilermakers', have backed the men's insistence that all 2,000 workers must be rehired. The dispute remains unofficial, but recommendations to back the men will go before union executive meetings next week.

Mr Rob Wilson, convenor at the yard, said: "There will be no production on Monday because the lads have made a decision and we will make sure anyone who turns up will not enter the yard. The only way production will re-start is when we all go back."

Management, who say the terms for a return are not negotiable, held inconclusive meetings with union officials on Wednesday. Further meetings are scheduled for Friday in London.

Highland Fabricators is one year behind with a platform order for Conoco's Butina Field.

• A building programme for accommodation for crews and their families of Type-42 destroyers is to be based at Rosyth. It is expected to provide many jobs.

The Inland Revenue is claiming for unpaid income tax and national insurance contributions and Coventry Council is claiming £30,000 for unpaid rates.

The cooperative went into liquidation on August 6.

Triumph name to be sold

From Arthur Osman, Birmingham

The name of Triumph is to be sold to the highest bidder, the liquidators of the failed Meriden motor cycle cooperative said yesterday.

Debt left by the cooperative, established eight years ago with the support of Mr Wedgwood Benn totalled £3.8m. It was estimated that it had received about £10m support from public funds.

A meeting of 200 creditors at the factory, which is between Birmingham and Coventry, heard that unsecured creditors owed about £1.7m. It was hoped that the 22-acre site would be sold for housing for about £1m, and another £200,000 was expected from the sale of machinery.

All cash realized would go to the National Westminster Bank, which had secured its losses. There was a deficit of £2.6m.

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Safely home: Mrs Elizabeth Kirkpatrick, seen yesterday after being reunited with Mr Henry Meenan, her father, in Belfast.

Kidnap wife freed as tactics change against informers

From Richard Ford, Belfast

The republican paramilitaries attempt to force informers to retract evidence by kidnapping their relatives appears to be failing with the release yesterday of Mrs Elizabeth Kirkpatrick and speculation that the only remaining hostage will be freed this weekend.

Mrs Kirkpatrick reappeared in circumstances as bizarre as her abduction almost four months ago by the outlawed Irish National Liberation Army (Inla) and without Mr Henry Kirkpatrick, her husband, apparently agreeing to retract evidence implicating 18 people in terrorist crimes.

If Mr Patrick Gilmore, who was taken from his home in Londonderry nine months ago by the Provisional IRA in a bid to stop his son giving evidence, is released this weekend, it will coincide with a new direction in the republican movement's "anti-informer" campaign.

Tomorrow a meeting will be held in west Belfast to launch a movement which will involve mass street demonstrations similar to the anti-H block protests three years ago.

Committees will be formed of relatives of people charged on the evidence of informers and support will be sought from international jurists, the legal profession and political groups, who will lobby all sections of opinion against the use of informers.

But certain groups and people would have been embarrassed to support a campaign while people were being kidnapped.

Father Denis Paul, who played an important role in securing Mrs Kirkpatrick's release, said: "I am very opposed to supersabotage, which are a further perversion of a rather bad legal system, but people can say little about it when people are being kidnapped. I hope Mr Gilmore will be released this weekend."

The release of Mrs Kirkpatrick, aged 27, ended a 105-day ordeal for her family, and came eight days after her husband's stepfather and half sister, who were also kidnapped and threatened with execution by Inla, were freed when Irish

She does not think her husband will retract his evidence. With a nun standing near by, Mrs Kirkpatrick, one of 10 children and from a strongly Roman Catholic family, said: "I will file for divorce if he does not retract. If he does I will try to make a go of it but he has betrayed me."

Doctors given warning on missing wife

By Rosemary Smith

Dr Robert Jones and the police detective who is leading the hunt to find his wife, Mrs Diane Jones, have appealed to the medical profession to contact the police if she seeks treatment.

Any doctor who responds to the appeal could be disciplined by the British Medical Association. A spokesman said last night: "The BMA does not need to warn doctors not to inform the police. Our standing ethical guidelines are that in general we advise doctors only to break confidence if they have an overriding duty to society, for example in the Yorkshire Ripper case."

Where a person has simply left home and doctors are told to look out for them it is not the doctor's job to inform the police. Doctors may try and persuade the person to make contact, but people must feel that if they need medical treatment they can get help in confidence.

Dr Jones, who is going to Canada on a three-week holiday this weekend, made his appeal through the medical journal *Doctor*.

In his first appeal since his pregnant wife vanished five weeks ago, Dr Jones, aged 40, said: "Doctors should contact the police if they know something. I believe my wife does not want to be found. But she may have approached a GP somewhere, though it is more likely she will want tranquillizers than anti-nausea case."

Dr Sept Michael Ainsley, who is leading the search for Mrs Jones, also appealed in the journal for doctors to contact him if Mrs Jones approached them for treatment.

Mrs Jones disappeared on July 23 after returning home with her husband from a public house in Coggeshall, Essex.

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Horrifying violence in Sri Lanka has left a trail of chaos and destruction all over the island.

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With thousands of people still homeless the needs are enormous. We need your help. Please send a donation to help buy food, clothing and shelter.

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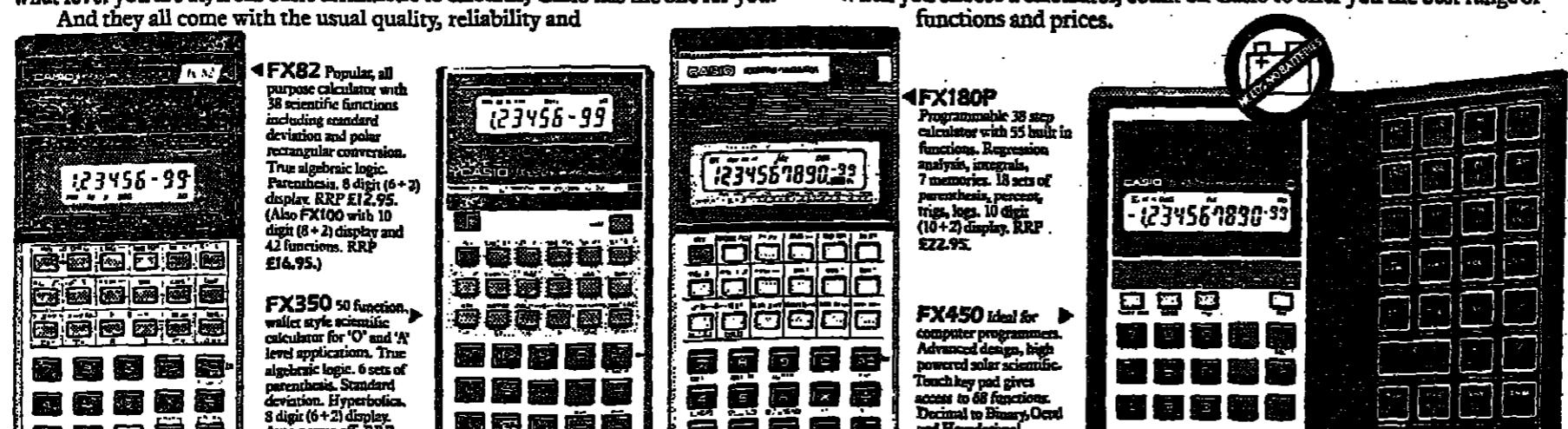
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مكتبة الأطفال

Holiday trading stamps may step up garage price war

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

Trading stamps are to return to garage forecourts, at a time when the big oil companies are reviewing their marketing and pricing policy.

Anglo Petroleum, which has 400 filling stations in Wales and the West Country, are to give Holiday Stamps with petrol. The stamps can be redeemed only against package holidays offered by travel agents and companies that belong to the Association of British Travel Agents. The stamps can be used for British-based and foreign holidays and the average family motorist should be able to collect enough stamps to obtain £3 discount on a package holiday within 10 to 15 weeks.

Motorists will receive the stamps at between 1 and 3 per cent of the retail price of the goods they buy, depending on the contract price agreed between the petrol company and Holiday Stamps.

However, if other petrol chains adopt stamps, though

this has been ruled out at the moment by the big oil companies, a return to double stamp offer is possible.

At the peak of the stamp wars in the mid-1970s, Green Shield Stamps were being offered by some petrol stations at 32-fold, with the result that larger value stamps had to be introduced.

Anglo Petroleum's 200 filling stations in East Anglia and the Midlands are not involved in the scheme. Mr Clive Colls, managing director of Anglo Petroleum, said yesterday, "People buying petrol in the South-west and Wales will now have the added bonus of being able to collect stamps towards their next holiday."

The four major oil companies, Shell, Esso, BP and Mobil, are resisting a price-cutting campaign after the recent increase in prices to industrial users as they regard it as financially impossible.

Marketing executives are examining ways of increasing

brand loyalty without resorting to price cuts and avoiding a full-scale return to giveaway offers.

A BP spokesman said: "The one certain thing that has emerged in recent months is that the motorist does not want to return to the wholesale special offer period of the 1970s. Price stability is important and brand loyalty has to be built up in other ways."

The trading stamps which are to be offered in Wales and the West Country will shortly spread to other retail outlets as well as bingo halls, cinemas, sports centres, public houses and off-licences if marketing plans are met, according to Mr David Price, chairman of Holiday Stamps Limited.

By restricting the redemption of stamps to high street travel agents and mail-order bookings, Holiday Stamps, which is based in Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire, has avoided the high cost of warehousing and shop premises that resulted in the demise of Green Shield Stamps

Comedian and wife clash over children

A courtroom battle erupted yesterday between the Scottish comedian, Billy Connolly and his estranged wife Iris over the custody of their two children.

Allegations were made by lawyers for each side at the court of session in Edinburgh where Mrs Connolly, 36, applied for interim custody of their son Jamie, aged 13 and their daughter Cara, aged nine.

The comedian's lawyer accused Mrs Connolly of being unfit to look after the children because of her heavy drinking, her associations with other men and the "disgusting state" of her house.

In turn, her agent claimed that Mr Connolly had spent three weeks in a monastery recovering from a drink problem last year.

Lord Robertson said that although the allegations made in court were serious, none of them had been put before the court in the divorce action. He made no order, and gave each side seven days to put their allegations in writing.

In the meantime the children will remain in London with their father who lives with the entertainer, Miss Pamela Stephens.

Mr Connolly was not represented in court at the start of the case, and Lord Robertson said that he would grant the motion for interim custody. Seconds later Mr Charles Boag-Thomson, QC, appeared to oppose the move and the case went ahead.

Mr Boag-Thomson alleged that Mr Connolly was a wholly unsuitable person to have custody. "The position is that over a period of years this woman as taken to drinking to excess, being in a state of intoxication on numerous occasions during the day to an extent whereby the children have not been properly looked

after. The clothing was not properly washed."

He alleged that both children had played truant and that conditions at Mrs Connolly's home in Brymen, Stirlingshire, had become "deplorable" with four dogs and three cats running about.

Their son's schooling had failed so far behind he needed extra tuition for four hours a day. Both children had been put down for schools in London.

On one occasion the girl had found her mother unconscious on the floor and Mrs Connolly ended up in hospital.

Mr Boag-Thomson said: "It cannot be in the best interests of the children to return to a mother who is incapable of looking after them by reason of being regularly intoxicated."

He is associating with not one but two men, one of whom is regarded as a local 'hard man' who engages in drinking sessions."

Mr Connolly, 46, was a qualified nurse of Skye Close, Reading, said: "I realized that Gemma was very ill but I was told that after she had been on the anti-biotics for a few days she would probably recover."

The inquest jury returned a verdict of accidental death.

Dr Heather Mycock told the inquest at Reading: "We were giving the maximum amount of the drug because of the seriousness of the illness and the high rate of mortality and risk of brain damage."

She had written instructions to the nurses said 300mg of the drug should be administered every eight hours instead of every 24, as they should have done.

"It was a slip of the pen. That was a mistake. When I wrote that note, I had been on duty for 18 hours," Dr Mycock said.

Dr Stephen Cordiner, a Home Office pathologist, said the child died from bacterial meningitis and an overdose of the antibiotic.

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Dr Stephen Cordiner, a Home



£3m a year hunt for hot rocks

Hot rocks beneath Devon and Cornwall contain the equivalent of the coal resource of the United Kingdom. Researching ways of extracting that geothermal energy has been in progress for eight years, under a research programme costing about £3m a year.

A progress report on the project was given by Dr Anthony Batchelor, of the Camborne School of Mines geothermal energy project.

He said: "The idea was simple. Anywhere on Earth the temperatures increased as greater depths were reached below the surface.

"If a process of producing fractures in deep-lying hot rock could be produced, then the heat could be extracted by forcing water through the cracks."

To be economic, the mined heat must be sold at a high enough rate and priced to recover the drilling investment profitably.

The key was to drill two or more inter-linking access wells for circulating the water from one bore hole to the other.

Leftist talk on parrots

Nine out of ten parrots are left footed in the same way that most people were right handed, Professor Richard Andrew, of Sussex University, told the association.

In another report reviewing knowledge about the brain and behaviour, Dr Peter Slater, lecturer in animal behaviour at Sussex University, said that all song birds were now known to learn their repertoire by copying others but some were more accurate in their learning than others.

The complexity of vocal communication in birds was exceeded only by that in humans. The male of some species had a vocabulary of hundreds or even thousands of different phrases. The origin of marsh warblers, which migrated between western Europe and Africa, could be traced by their song pattern.

● A waspish defence of aid

Slow monitoring blamed for drug disasters

Reports by Pearce Wright
and Clive Cookson

In principle, there was no way that a government could anticipate the next calamity, it was much more likely the scientists in industry might be able to predict possible hazards with their own new compounds, although past experience had shown that even that was not always possible.

The Government's measures to monitor adverse reaction, using the system of "yellow cards" filled in by doctors to record such reactions, was too slow for monitoring purposes.

Clinical trials, even when they involved thousands of patients, could not detect adverse effects which might happen with a probability of one in ten thousand or less, he said.

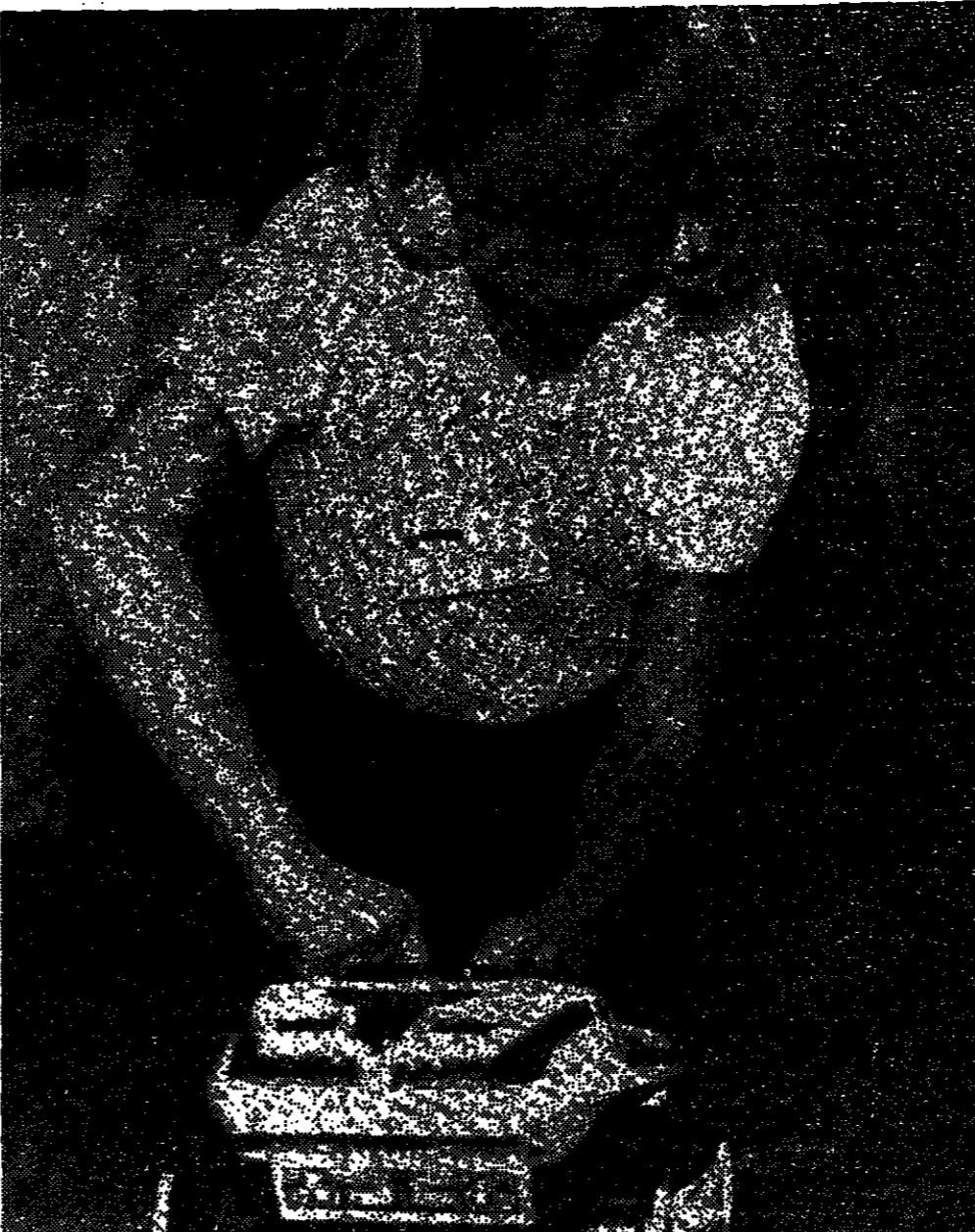
He said that the only episode anything near the scale of fatality of road deaths, for example, when asthma aerosols killed 3,500 people in the United Kingdom in the 1960s, when set against the figure of 250,000 child lives saved in Britain specifically by the use of modern medicines the "calamities" fell into perspective, he said. Nevertheless, it was important to exploit the latest technology to minimize the risks.

Government regulations could not provide all the answers. Historically, governments had reacted to calamities rather than anticipated them. Government intervention could not guarantee the safety of the public or the absolute of the manufacturer from responsibility.

PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCT DISASTERS IN REVIEW

Year	Preparation	Country	Deaths	Permanent Injuries
1939	Sulphanilamide	USA	107	0
1950s	Stalilin	France	102	100+
1955	Cutter Polio Vaccine	USA	5	54
1961	Thalidomide	UK	0	450
1960s	Asthma aerosols	UK	3500	0
1970s	Tractolol	UK	20	1200
1970s	Cloquinol	Japan	200	6000
1982	Banoxaprofen	UK	61	0

● Hidden energy source



Kid's stuff: A girl programmes a computerized toy at the popular Micro-Computer Workshop at the British Association conference, which ended yesterday. (Photograph: David Hodge)

● Four-winged birds

Aid for developing countries defended

"If I were a natural scientist one of the problems I would like to investigate is why a wasp will climb into a jam jar when several of its fellows are already there, lying dead". Professor Robert Cassen, of the Institute of Development Studies, Sussex University, said.

Some aspects of human behaviour display the same propensity.

He was describing the activities which were intended to be steps forward in cooperation between the industrial and developing worlds, and in particular the meetings of the past two years at the Cancun summit, two annual meetings of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund, the Western Economic Summits of Versailles and Williamsburg, and most recently the United Nations conference on trade and development held in Belgrade.

His theme was: North and South: economic links and their implications.

He launched into a spirited defence of aid against increasingly vocal critics such as Professor Peter Bauer, of the London School of Economics, who say that aid does not work.

"He bases his views, as far as I can judge, on more or less anecdotal evidence of the occasional failed aid project, or on *a priori* theorizing which has little basis in reality", Professor Cassen said of Professor Bauer, whose views were outlined in an article in *The Times* on April 11.

He said: "Those who still have hopes left, watch their hopes disappear like wasps into the jam jar, for each of these occasions, and many smaller ones on more limited issues, have had the same result: virtually nothing."

Professor Cassen said that the

developing countries were suffering the worst setback to their prospects since the 1950s.

They developed rapidly in the 1950s: less so in the 1970s, but were still making progress. Now, at the start of the 1980s, their growth had fallen drastically.

He added that the record of North-South cooperation was not wholly empty. But the North was negative and had found a number of alibis for its poor performance in offering aid. The alibis most commonly offered were:

● The recovery which had started in the world economy would take care of the developing countries' problems;

● Aid did not work, or was even counter-productive;

● Development should be left to the private sector;

● The industrial countries could not afford to do any more than they were doing already;

● They had to cut back their own domestic public expenditure;

● The developing countries had caused most of their own problems by the inadequacies of their domestic economic management; they had to "get their act together".

Why fire alarms are ignored

Most people have learnt to associate fire alarms with tests, drills or faults in the system.

Thus, they often ignore an alarm bell or siren when the building needs to be evacuated because of a real fire, Mr David Tong, of the University of Surrey, told the psychology section.

The Fire Research Unit at Surrey is working on a new type of "informative fire warning system".

Animal test ban disastrous'

A total ban on animal experiments would be disastrous for medical research, Dr John Badenoch, a doctor at the Department of Health and Social Security, told the association.

Using animals to test cosmetics was indefensible, he said, but there was an important difference between that and using them to combat life-threatening diseases.

Learning from swans in top gear

What is the largest sized bird that might fly? The answer, according to Professor Michael French, Professor of Engineering at Lancaster University, is a four-winged bird, a large pair of wings providing lift and a small pair providing thrust.

Such a design should support a flying creature of up to 100 kilogrammes. Professor French used the example not to predict a genetically engineered monster but to show young engineers that good ways of design for one purpose were often inadequate for another.

His design avoids the strain of flapping too big a wing which limits the weight of real birds.

"Large birds are in too high a gear," he said. "A swan flying is like a cyclist trying to climb a hill in top gear. Watch a swan take off, the similarity is striking."

He suggested nature's design efficiency held lessons for the engineer. Nevertheless, living organisms were not strictly functional.

Engineers were largely functional designers who worked to the best of their ability. The functions they tackled were difficult, though not as difficult as those of living organisms.

Unemployment bends the charts

Sick Germans grit teeth and work on

From Michael Birney, Bonn

Unemployment is good for your health. Or rather, the fear of unemployment forces many people who feel unwell to stay at work instead of registering as sick.

This conclusion has been drawn in West Germany from the sudden and drastic fall in the past 15 months of the percentage of people applying to state health insurance bureaux. The fall coincides with a sharp rise in unemployment, which now stands at over 2,500,000.

For years, it seemed Germans were becoming ever more susceptible to disease. The numbers absent from work on grounds of ill-health rose steadily. Whereas in 1956 there were 545 applications a year for medical costs from the state insurance bureaux for every 1,000 people registered, by 1980 the figure had risen to 1,007.

That means that on average each worker went sick at least once a year.

The key is to establish the correct latitude then to sail parallel to the equator, in this case due east.

Each star in the heavens can be related, through a set of tables known as the declination tables, to a position of latitude when that star passes the meridian, or its highest point in the sky.

By placing his yacht directly beneath the appropriate star at the right time, Professor Cremer has no need for a sextant.

Professor Cremer's method,

involves numerous observations with the naked eye, such as star sightings, wave patterns, swell direction, the position of the sun and even the colour of the sea, caused by a higher plankton population as they hit a continental shelf.

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The technique involves extracting an egg from a donor which is then placed in a test tube, where it is fertilized by the sperm of the husband of the infertile woman. The fertile egg is then replaced in the woman.

The nine-member committee, set up by the state government of Victoria, said the use of donor eggs should be permitted and laid down guidelines for all aspect of producing test-tube babies.

Routine methods involve an egg taken from a woman who cannot conceive, being fertilized by her husband's sperm in a test tube before being replaced. Donor sperm is also used in the case of infertile husbands.

The new process, the success of which has yet to be proven with the birth of a healthy baby, will be allowed to proceed if the Government accepts the recommendations.

China offers assistance to Macao

Peking (Reuters) - Australia's leading test-tube baby team has been given approval by an ethics committee to go ahead with a new process involving the transfer of eggs between women.

The work, by Melbourne's Monash University-Queen Victoria Hospital in-vitro team, was stopped last October while a committee studied legal and social health aspects.

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The most recent is a plan to reclaim 1.2m square yards of land in Macao's outer harbour. About 95 per cent of the hundreds of millions of pounds for this scheme will come from the Chinese special economic zone of Zhuhai.

Macao is just east across the Pearl River estuary from Hong Kong, where markets are sensitive to any hints of Chinese intentions when Britain's lease on most of the territory expires in 1997.

Exiled writer stripped of citizenship

MOSCOW (NYT) - Georgi Vladimirov, the dissident writer who left under pressure for the West last spring, has been stripped of his citizenship by the Soviet Government for systematically engaging in activities hostile to the state.

The decree of the President of the Supreme Soviet was dated July 1, a month after Mr Vladimirov and his wife, Natalya Kuznetsova, and her mother left the Soviet Union for West Germany.

Mr Appapillai Amirtham, leader of the opposition, who is secretary-general of the Tamil United Liberation Front, had been in Madras where he was expected to meet Mr Jayaraman. He changed plans and returned to Colombo yesterday for discussions with the Indian envoy, who is trying to arrange round-table dis-

Vatican bankers' assets to be seized

From John Earle
Rome

A Milan magistrate investigating the collapse last year of the late Roberto Calvi's Banco Ambrosiano is reported to have ordered the sequestration of the assets in Italy of two senior officials of the Vatican bank, the Instituto per le Opere di Religione (IOR). Signor Luigi Menzini, the chief lay executive, and Signor Pellegrino de Strobel, the chief accountant, are both Italian citizens.

In a debate in Parliament last October the Treasury Minister of the day, Senator Nino Andreatta, said the IOR owed Banco Ambrosiano \$1.287m (£835m). Milan court sources said Signor Menzini and Signor de Strobel were among a group of people whose assets were recently ordered to be seized, though their names have not been officially released.

The magistrate's decision was taken before the seizure ordered earlier this week of a controlling 50.2 per cent shareholding in the Rizzoli-Corriere della Sera publishing group in the hands of Signor Angelo Rizzoli and the former managing director, Signor Bruno Tassan Din.

There was no comment in the Vatican where, after months of delay, the report is awaited from an Italian-Vatican commission charged with ascertaining the facts of the IOR's liability towards Banco Ambrosiano.

Congress study shows that Reagan cuts have hit poor hardest

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

The brunt of President Reagan's cuts in welfare and other domestic spending will be borne by families earning less than \$10,000 (£6,600) a year, an income that is typical in the big-city ghettos.

The findings results from the most intensive study carried out by the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) on the subject.

Some of the statistics are startling: for example, 70 per cent of the main domestic benefit programmes will affect households with a total income of \$20,000 and less.

In the 1983 fiscal year the loss to those families will average \$415, whereas higher-income families will lose only \$175. The losses are across the board of benefit programmes — retirement and disability payments, unemployment pay, housing, child nutrition support, health care, education, social services and job training.

The findings are acutely embarrassing to the Adminis-

Martin Luther King rally

Squabbles threaten civil rights dream

From Our Own Correspondent, Washington

Scores of thousands are expected to descend on Washington today for the twentieth anniversary of Martin Luther King's historic "I have a dream" rally, Saturday. In atmosphere and content it will be a different occasion from the one in 1963, when the civil rights movement marched under a single, united banner.

Several groups, particularly those pursuing Jewish interests, will be absent — a reflection of how the civil rights movement has fragmented into an array of sectional and often opposing interests.

For weeks the organizers have been agonizing over the wording of a paper on foreign policy. The fact that there is a foreign policy paper at all reflects the different character of the rally from 1963, when the issues were simple, few and indigenous: jobs and civil rights.

The final wording of the paper has alienated many Jewish groups, who see it as anti-Israel. It has also served to put a formal stamp on the new character of civil rights activism in America, a movement with many faces, most of them looking beyond the traditional issues that brought 250,000 protesters to Washington 20 years ago.

The National Urban League, the biggest black welfare organization in America, will not officially march on Saturday. "We believe the focus on a broad range of issues is likely to limit the impact (of the march)," it said. "We cannot justify the strain on our limited

resources that participation would entail."

A host of Jewish organizations — all prominent on the streets of Washington in 1963 — will not be present because of a passage in the foreign policy paper that declares opposition to the militarization of internal conflicts, often abetted and even encouraged by massive US arms exports, in areas of the world such as the Middle East and Central America.

Word has spread out that the phrasology was decided in consultation with the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee, thus further antagonizing many Jewish groups.

Mrs Coretta Scott King, the widow of Martin Luther King, signed a letter to the Union of American Hebrew Congregations stating: "We intend to highlight in our legislative and official policy statements the goal of peace. We will not articulate a specific strategy for achieving it."

In a further attempt to shore up flagging Jewish support, the organizers of the officially titled "March on Washington" said they would publicly disavow any antisemitic or anti-Israel statements that might be made on Saturday.

They also promised to instruct parade marshals to screen placards and banners to ensure that they were to the general theme of "jobs, peace and freedom".

The American Jewish Committee, among other organizations, was not satisfied by the reassurances. Mr Hyman Bookbinder, its Washington representative, said: "The organizers made a serious mistake when they moved away from the 1963 civil rights goals into complicated foreign policy questions." He claimed that the policy statements of the march were too pro-Third World and anti-American.

The American labour movement, too, is lukewarm about the march. The AFL-CIO will be officially present but it has not proposed any special effort to get trade unionists on to the streets.

Even so the march organizers hope that 200,000 people will assemble in the mall in front of the Washington monument for the short walk to the Lincoln Memorial. So far 715 national organizations and 30 international groups have declared support and more than 2,600 buses have been booked from all corners of the country.

Martin Luther King: Followers divided

Thais score successes in war on drug rings

From Neil Kelly, Bangkok

Thailand, intensifying its war against narcotics, is seizing twice as much heroin this year as it did in 1982, according to Major-General Chavalit Yodmanee, Secretary-General of the Narcotics Control Board.

He said 600 kilograms (1,323 lb) of heroin was confiscated in the first seven months of this year. This equalled the amount seized during the whole of last year. About 320 people were being arrested every week in 500 separate drug-related cases.

The seizure of 600 kilograms of heroin is significant because it represents nearly 20 per cent of Thailand's opium crop which amounted to 35 tons at the last harvest. Ten tons of opium are required to make one ton of heroin.

The bulk of the Golden Triangle opium is grown in Burma with the third side of the triangle, Laos, providing about 70 tons a year.

Thailand's anti-narcotics campaign shifted into top gear about 20 months ago. Its success may be explained by a remark by Mr Maurice Tanner, the senior American narcotics officer in Thailand: "I am happy," he said, "when I pick up my paper and see they have arrested a police officer or Army man with narcotics. That hardly happened until recently. Now they are going after them."

Americans return to the gas guzzler

From Trevor Fishlock, New York

Out of the shadows of shame the big American car is emerging again into the light of popular approval.

Health: Medicaid, the health care programme for the poor, has been reduced by 5 per cent as has Medicare, the programme for the elderly. Other health services programmes studied by the CBO have been cut by 22 per cent.

The report will fuel the debate on whether President Reagan's cuts are falling disproportionately on the poor, an issue that will be critical in the presidential campaign next year.

Mr "Tip" O'Neill, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, said in releasing the report that "despite repeated demands from President Reagan, administration cuts have been targeted on families of moderate and low income."

"Despite the President's most recent statements that he is perplexed and concerned at news of rising poverty and hunger in America, the CBO documents that Reagan policies have contributed to it. We have denied millions of American families the basics of the American dream."

The CBO is a non-partisan arm of Congress. Its report said spending cuts enacted since 1981, combined with a rapid build-up in defence spending, had caused significant shifts in the make-up of the federal budget.

While defence spending would increase from 25.7 per cent of the federal budget in 1982 to almost 30 per cent in 1985, spending on retirement and disability programmes would drop from 24.9 per cent to 24.3 per cent, even though the number of beneficiaries is rising rapidly.

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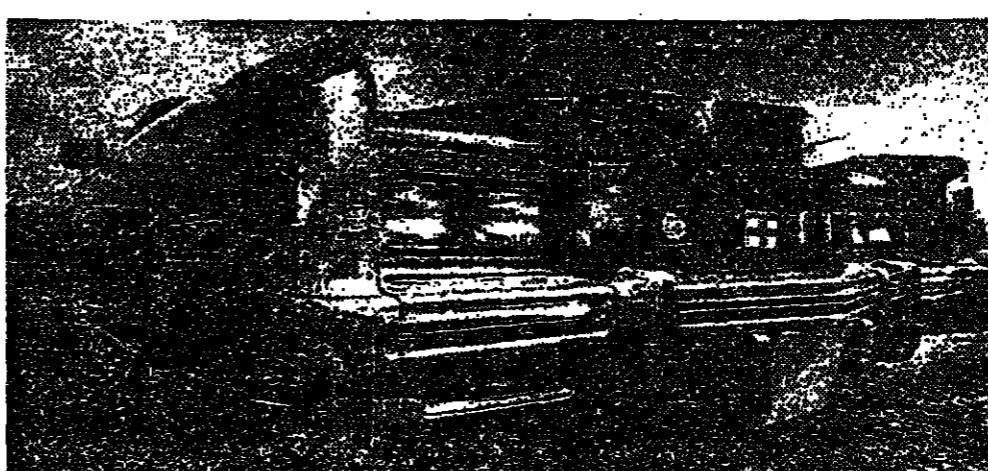
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Martin Luther King: Followers divided



Motown's delight: The big, plush roadliner is fashionable again.

Reagan trip to Manila opposed by Kennedy

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

Senator Edward Kennedy has urged President Reagan to cancel his visit to the Philippines until the perpetrators of the murder of the Filipino opposition leader, Benigno Aquino, have been brought to justice.

The Massachusetts Democrat in a letter to the President, also said the United States should delay action on all aid and support to the Philippines until the government of President Marcos has "conducted a full, satisfactory and impartial investigation of the Aquino assassination and reported its findings to the United States Government."

He will urge other members of Congress to support his position when it reconvenes.

President Reagan is due to visit Manila as part of an Asian tour in November. The White House has repeatedly emphasized that the Aquino assassination at Manila airport last Sunday has not changed President Reagan's plans.

The Reagan Administration has condemned the assassination and called for a thorough and objective investigation.

© MANILA: Thousands of students rallied at two universities in protest against the Aquino assassination while a commission created to investigate the killing held its first working meeting (AP reports).

Major General Prospero Olivas, chief of the Manila Metropolitan Police, told a news conference that investigators had encountered only "dead ends" in trying to identify the alleged assassin who was killed by security officers.

He added that among many officers confined to quarters during the inquiry was Brigadier General Luther Custodio, head of airport security.

Mr Mtembu ran after Xaba and hit him on the back of the head. Xaba fell. The warden then put his foot on him and pulled him up by his left arm and hit him repeatedly.

Another of the men who died, Mhlakaza Xaba, was lying on the ground and moaning.

"The warden told us we were going to work until the sweat and salt poured out," Mr Mtembu said.

"I'm dying."

Mr Mtembu said Xaba staggered to his feet and reeled away like a drunkard.

I saw warders beat three prisoners to death

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg

Warders in charge of a working party of black convicts beat three of them to death as they lay slumped over wheelbarrows crying for mercy in blazing heat, a court has been told.

Eight warders, four whites and four blacks, have pleaded not guilty to three charges of murder and 34 of assault with intent to do bodily harm at their

trial at Witbank, in the eastern Transvaal.

Mr Andries Mtembu, serving five years for theft, said the temperature was about 35°C (95°F) when a party of 47 prisoners was escorted to a dam site at the Barberon prison

"The warders told us we were going to work until the sweat and salt poured out," Mr Mtembu said.

"I'm dying."

Mr Mtembu said Xaba staggered to his feet and reeled away like a drunkard.



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THE ARTS

Radio
Slaving
away

I suppose many of us entertain the reassuring notion that, in the wake of William Wilberforce, and whatever else may be wrong with the world, we have at least been able to leave behind us the condition in which one man actually owns another as his property. Not quite so. In *The Ushakov Line* (Radio 4, August 23; producer, Jock Gallagher) Adam Raphael was able to give instances not only of practices which amount to slavery (debt-bondage in India, the enticement of jobless American workers into labour camps where they are held by force and without proper pay), but of the present day ownership of one human being by another.

In Mauritania in West Africa, slavery was last outlawed three years ago — after several previous and unsuccessful enactments — and still it has not disappeared. Indeed it cannot disappear for it seems that the Mauritanian economy would collapse without it. Free the slaves, compel their owners to pay them and these owners would quite simply be unable to do so. A few might be retained as paid servants, the rest — amounting to many thousands — would end up on the streets, deprived of any means of support. In such a case, at such a time, effective abolition would apparently be worse than the offence, for the slave's lot is not always wretched: there are good masters as well as bad.

Raphael's other examples, though arguably not out and out slavery, were to my mind more squalid and disheartening because they all involved an element of callous deceit. The Haitian authorities knowingly engage large numbers of their own black people to cut cane for the mestizos of the neighbouring Dominican Republic (who don't stoop to such work) under conditions which the victims only later discover to be servitude.

Indian labourers acquire unavoidable debts to their landlords and are then trapped for life, never earning enough cash to discharge the debt, which may only be the equivalent of £10. We heard a landlord declare that he paid his workers not in kind but cash (as he is supposed to) and assert that they had only told the BBC they were under debt-bondage so as to underpin their claim for government handout. No doubt it happens but that still leaves a proportion of the landlords lying their heads off. Not quite the programme Wilberforce might have hoped for to mark the 150th anniversary of abolition.

That same last Tuesday was used to mark although a few days early, another anniversary, the eruption of Krakatoa, in 1883. Anyway, Sean Maffett's *Once in a blue Moon* (Radio 4; producer, John Knight) was none the worse for arriving in advance. It was a most vivid reconstruction, its pictorial qualities enhanced by the inclusion of archive recordings of eye-witness survivors.

Two of the week's plays sounded quite exceptionally at home in the medium of radio. Tony Flaherty's *Before I am Old* (Radio 4, August 23rd) told a familiar story but did it with unusual sympathy: English Neil on a visit to Connemara encounters Mary, youngest daughter of a local working family, a relationship beautifully portrayed in all its early insouciance. Mary ends up pregnant; Neil does the gentlemanly thing and offers to marry her, but the community, represented by the local priest, closes its solid Irish Catholic ranks on the foreigner and, to his amazement, sends him packing. The play was constructed as a flashback in the frame of Neil's later sentimental visit to the woman he had once loved, a visit calculated to destroy all sentimental feeling, the actors (Anton Lesser and Marcella (O'Riordan) expertly conveying how each had changed. Fine evocative direction by Marilyn Ireland in Belfast.

On Radio 3 *The Barometer* (August 25), translated by James Naughton from Alexander Klimen's Czech original, included touching, mellow performances by Pauline Lents and Michael Spice under the direction of Christopher Vennin. **David Wade**



Richard Gaddes: Determined to buy American

Concerts

Summer Music

Elizabeth Hall

Togetherness is a virtue much prized in summer gatherings of musicians, and too often it is assumed that the feeling — comradeship, warmth, and let's have a bash — will make up for the absence of the musical fact.

Thursday's remarkable contribution to what is proving to be an exceptionally successful Summer Music series had, however, every sort of togetherness. A string sextet whose members can scarcely all be familiar with each other gave wonderfully sophisticated accounts of Schoenberg's *Verklärte Nacht* and the Brahms G major Sextet, and even avoided the diet of treacle for lunch, treacle for supper which made the programme at first appear unaffordable.

There was a clear identity of purpose between the leader, Young Uck Kim, and his partner on many occasions, cellist Yo Yo Ma: their playing was intense, though I found Kim rather insistent and unrelaxed. Greater poise was shown

on the first viola line by the supertative Nobuko Imai, who concentrated all Brahms's effusive warmth into her melodies and gave the strange open-string oscillation of the Sextet's first movement an eerie quality.

Csaba Erdelyi matched her gesture for gesture, with complete precision, as did Christopher Warren-Green (who played second violin to Kim with restraint and careful blending).

Though there were moments when the group's sense of internal tuning faltered — in the lovely tinge of E flat in the Brahms G major opening, and, more oddly, in the simplest variation of the Adagio — the general matching of phrasing and feeling was very natural, the balance unforced. There was heavy peasant fun in the Trio of the Brahms Scherzo, but the finest moments were both visionary: the rippling arpeggios in the last section of the Schoenberg, with cello pizzicato perfectly swept; and the glorious code of the Brahms Adagio, rising up over a seemingly endless cello pedal note.

Nicholas Kenyon

BBCSO/Elder

Albert Hall/Radio 3/4

The absence of Tippett's symphonies from the concert hall has been heavy; the burden was lightened on Thursday when the BBC Symphony Orchestra under Mark Elder brought No 2 to the Proms.

Whether unfamiliarity was breeding contempt or merely uncertainty as to whether the music was likeable stuff or not, the number of disruptive, ill-timed exits and entrances from the auditorium rivalled those in the pit at the legendary first performance.

But for those who stayed, the aural preparation of Beethoven was rewarded by a performance which took its salute to the earlier master, sensed the vibrant undercurrents of Vivaldi and Stravinsky, and through all spoke the name of its

composer with clear, often beguiling conviction.

At times the joyful vigour of the opening movement, the teasing harlequinade of the last, were softened by an edge of reserve; but the work's sheer inventive energy broke out time and again in the delicate engaging of the cogs and wheels of strings and wind, the light spring within each harp-dappled episode, the deft interfolding of levels of density.

The tenderness of the second movement was poised between the deliquescent trumpet, piano and harp solos and a balletic, Stravinskian bending of the supple orchestral body as energy seemed contained in stasis. And Mr Elder's eye for detail enjoyed the third movement's pattern of ticking and kicking rhythms — again a little on the safe side of risk-taking but still constantly engaging.

Hilary Finch

Nineteen-year-old Brian McCarron went through the window of his car after a head-on collision with a heavy lorry last November. He broke both legs, his nose, a wrist, lacerated his face, virtually destroyed one eye and severely damaged the other. The only lucky thing for him that day was that the accident occurred within the area covered by the Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast, where life-saving techniques, particularly in emergencies, have been extensively developed by more than a decade of the emergency.

Only 1 per cent of patients admitted to Ulster hospitals, even at the height of the troubles, were victims of sectarian violence, but the Royal Victoria sits in the hot spot and all patients have benefited from the advancement of its doctors' skills.

Channel 4's *Trauma* last night, produced and tightly

directed by Alan Hailes, was the first of a series of four filmed over four months in the hospital with an elaborate system of communication between doctors and crew and the decision as to whether the film should be shown or not resting with the patient. It will not be a series for the squeamish, who might be heartened to hear of the availability of such dedication and skill, should the worst happen, but would prefer not to watch.

The specialized efforts of the Royal Victoria on behalf of Brian McCarron were shown in gory detail — the damaged eyes, the hammering of steel nails into bones, incisions here and there, the whole paraphernalia of emergency medicine — accompanied by matter-of-fact commentaries by doctors involved.

For most of his first day he underwent surgery, then there

John Higgins introduces the Opera Theatre of St Louis, the first American opera company to come to the Festival, and its creator, Richard Gaddes

The choice of the first American opera company to visit Edinburgh has fallen on the Opera Theatre of St Louis. Ten years ago there was virtually no grand opera in St Louis. The town, which is bisected by the Missouri, relied for its summer music on "the Muni", the Municipal Opera in the city park which supplied, and still supplies, the usual summer stock season of Porter and Kern, Rodgers and Hammerstein, with a big star in each show. In the winter there is, of course, the St Louis Symphony.

The man who introduced opera to St Louis, and vice versa, in this century is Richard Gaddes, an Englishman who learned his trade at Glyndebourne and then Santa Fe before setting up his own company in the Mid-West. During its eight seasons to date the Opera Theatre has attracted both acclaim and critical attention — the last four have all been reported on this page. The reason takes little seeking: from the outset Gaddes has been determined to introduce the unfamiliar both in terms of repertoire and singers. There

must have been a temptation to go for the tried and tested in a city with little or no operatic tradition, but it was resisted. Each year the St Louisans was given a familiar work, a *Traviata* or a *Rigoletto*, but at the same time they are encouraged to sample what cannot be tasted elsewhere.

As with the operas, so with the singers. Gaddes decided to steer away from the hardened campaigners of the touring circuit and instead took a chance on singers just embarking on their careers. Here the background of Glyndebourne and Santa Fe clearly had an influence, because both houses have for long had a justified reputation for seeking out and nurturing young talent. Gaddes, however, added another element: in vocal terms he was determined to buy American, although his producers and conductors could come from elsewhere.

In the season just ended in St Louis there was one Canadian mezzo, but the company was American. And United States citizens make up the entire casts at Edinburgh. The choice of

repertoire is also thoroughly representative of what might be heard in St Louis in English, since that is our tradition, and then relate it in Italian for Edinburgh, where they prefer opera to be performed in the original language. But that would not have been a facsimile of a St Louis production, which is what I want to present to Edinburgh.

"So we turned to Paulus and Delius. When John Drummond

approached me I was riding

high on the success of *Fennel* and *Gerda* (September 8, 10).

The first is a European pre-

miere, while Delius's opera

apart from a St Pancras

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scarcely written on the musical

map.

"What's to be Found in the

Operatic Attic?" was a *New*

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report on the last St Louis

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he spends quite a few

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original talk of Rossini's *La*

Cenerentola, which Jonathan

Miller wanted to direct with

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THE TIMES DIARY

Russian roulette

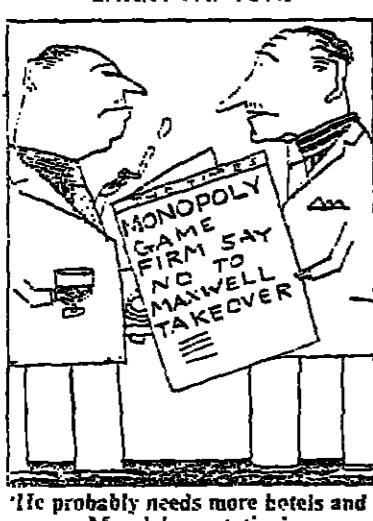
The chances of the Bolshoi Ballet coming to London next year are as evenly balanced as a ballerina in the Rose adagio. Tony Banks, MP for Newham North West and chairman of the GLC arts committee, says it will be decided within a month, strictly on questions of costs, though the thing that most makes him want the Russians to come is the displeasure it would cause the Government. "They have written outlining their objections because of the invasion of Afghanistan", he says. "I was not very impressed. If they say the GLC should not take an interest in Northern Ireland, I do not see how they can expect us to be interested in what happens in Afghanistan." If the Bolshoi do come to the South Bank it will not be the usual ballerinas who get to see them. Banks says: "We are not in the market to provide more subsidised seats for people who only complain about their rates". His plan is that, if the Bolshoi come, tickets should be allocated to tenants' associations, housing associations, pensioners, welfare claimants, and the like.

LAST Tuesday on a train due to leave Waterloo at 19.16 the guard announced: "We are sorry for the late departure of this train. We have two drivers fighting to take this train out and hope the issue will soon be resolved".

Beastly

Impressed, no doubt, by our efforts to find a symbol for the European Currency Unit (now to be the subject of discussion at an international conference on the future of the ECU in Luxembourg next month), the EEC has started looking for a symbol of its own. An animal mascot has been suggested for a publicity campaign aimed at schools. The industrious squirrel, hiding its harvest for future use, has been rejected because of its association with agricultural surpluses. The eager beaver is unsuitable because it is the mascot of the Free Quebecois. The most popular suggestion from Commission staff is a sloth.

BARRY FANTONI



Bangering

I rather think the Meat Promotion Executive, who sponsor the British Sausage Bureau, has entered my PHSausage joke competition for which the Bureau's Sausage Time clocks are prizes. The Executive's latest press release claims: "British sausages do not need pricking". After the shattering explosions under my grill yesterday morning, though, I reckon it is still a sensible precaution, at least until Mrs PHS uses culinary duties.

End of run

The village which was BBC-TV's *Clocheville* in the serialization of Gabriel Chevalier's classic yarn of the construction of a French village *reou* is turning fiction into fact. *Vaux-en-Beauplais*, which denied it was Chevalier's model for *Clocheville* until the BBC chose to film there, celebrates the opening of an up-to-date concrete *pissoir* tomorrow afternoon with a gala fete and ball. Though modest in size the new facility makes an important concession to modernity. It caters for the needs of both sexes.

No change

The Black Watch were the victors of Waterloo yesterday for the third year running. The battle was won on the playing fields of Weyl in Germany, where they are stationed, with the Scots, who actually won their main battle honours days before Waterloo at Quatre Bras, acting the part of the Irish, Welsh and even the English. The enemy was provided by Belgian grenadiers, while local Germans, led by their fire brigade, played the Prussians. They were under strict orders not to turn up an hour late, as they did in 1815.

During the run of the 7/84 theatre company's popular show *Men Should Weep* at the Theatre Royal, Stratford East, a local joker tethered a stuffed reindeer to the front of the building with a notice attached: "I am the first in tonight's queue". The theatre kept the beast on to advertise their next show, starring Warren Mitchell. Now, after a two-month closure, the theatre administrators find the animal has been whisked off to the Edinburgh Festival among 7/84's props, and is currently appearing in their presentation, *Women in Power*. "We want the reindeer back", a spokesman for Stratford East protests. "We restricted him, and we were planning to put him in our pantomime". PHS



Top right: Count Alexei Nikolaevich Tolstoy. Top left: Tolstoy with Konstantin Simonov and H. G. Wells in Leningrad, 1934. Above left: Visiting the Soviet air force in 1943. Above right: Relaxing in the country with his third wife, Ludmilla, 1941

The Tolstoy in Stalin's pocket

In order to ensure the presence of the celebrated writer Count Alexei Tolstoy among her guests that summer, the well-known society hostess Valentina Khodasevich took the precaution of sending him an invitation months before, in the winter. The court was, after all, a great catch. He was the country's most famous novelist and playwright and a nobleman of high rank, and also the richest man below her ruler in all Russia. In country houses, and city mansions he was always in demand: charming, affable, talented and generous. His presence ensured the success of any house-party, reception or dinner.

ALEXEI TOLSTOY'S reputation has never waned within the Soviet Union, and he continues to be the subject of innumerable biographical and literary studies. This is not surprising. What is on the face of it extraordinary is his physical survival during Stalin's purges. Why did he continue high in favour, seemingly never in danger, at a time when so many of his fellow-writers disappeared? His noble and émigré background, together with his earlier anti-Soviet writings, cried out after all for his identification as a Trotskyite wrecker or White Guard saboteur.

Two factors served to preserve him. The first was that innate historical awareness that enabled him to gauge the likely direction of the Revolution. From the moment Stalin's ambitions became clear Tolstoy was second to none in adulating the new dictator.

Tolstoy's reward was commensurate with his efforts. He received the Stalin Prize of 100,000 roubles and was enabled to enjoy a lavish lifestyle. In Stalin's eyes to be the apotheosis of Peter the Great conferred enormous benefits. It exonerated the fearful suffering inflicted by a Russian autocrat on his people, on the grounds that this was a necessary sacrifice on Russia's path to greatness. It required a man of gigantic courage, prepared if necessary to sink his arms to the elbows in blood, to drag this stagnant country forwards.

Alexei's fascination with the figure of Peter the Great dated from before the Revolution. In 1928-29, he came back to the subject with a play entitled *On the Back*. In 12 scenes, ranging from 1698 to Peter's death in 1725, a picture is provided, similar to that in *Peter's Day*, written in 1918. The squalor of his personal life, his epilepsy and the brutal pointlessness of his career were again highlighted. But inevitably the fuller perspective of the play took more note of Peter's mighty achievements, such as the building of St Petersburg and the victory of Poltava. Fearful of being accused of conniving at a presentation too sympathetic to Romanovs, the Moscow theatre director invited Stalin himself to the dress rehearsal.

When the great man left early the worst was feared. Many people, after all, had marked the inevitable parallel between sufferings experienced by the masses under Peter's draconian with the use of forced labour occurring in their own time during the implementation of the first five-year plan. The agitated director, Bersenev, ran out to try to placate the testy leader before he could enter his car. Meanwhile critic after critic mounted the stage to voice their indignation at the disgraceful piece of monarchist propaganda to which they had just been subjected.

After the eleventh speaker had voiced this view, Bersenev reappeared. Reminding the audience of the dialectical aphorism that "from a clash of opinions, truth is born", he congratulated the 11 speakers on their unanimity. However, he felt that others might think differently... in fact someone had already expressed a contrary view. Comrade Stalin had thought the play "wonderful" in every respect, save that of not portraying the Tsar heroically enough. There was a stunned silence, followed by a crescendo of cheers. "Long live Comrade Stalin!" All subsequent critics and reviewers shared Stalin's favourable impression.

In 1934 Tolstoy produced a revised version in which much of Peter's cruelty and coarseness was omitted, and the positive gains of his career given more prominence. But by now the critics were

"My husband and I," Mme Khodasevich recalled, "invited Alexei Nikolaevich and his wife to come to us in the summer at the village of Dubovo on lake Seliger, where we had a delightful, fair-sized house... For the use of guests we kept a couple of yachts and several canoes. The house was situated on the edge of the lake... Generally we crossed in our canoes to the opposite shore, where there was a marvellously sandy beach."

Readers may justifiably imagine that we are back in the palmy days of Tsar Alexander II, when peace reigned from Baltic to Pacific, the

spirit of revolution had been stilled, and the Russian nobility led a life of unimaginable luxury and pleasure. Those unfamiliar with Russian history may be surprised to learn that Count Tolstoy's Elysian holiday was not spent in the summer of 1890... but that of 1940. Twenty-three years earlier revolution had swept away Russia's aristocracy in torrents of blood, and in its place had proudly risen the world's first socialist state.

However, the career of Count Alexei Nikolaevich Tolstoy may serve to illustrate some surprising realities of Soviet society.

Even known during the reign of Nicholas II, Stalin himself is said to have addressed him as "Count".

In the 1930s Alexei was loud in his condemnation of fascism. He was, however, a time when his hostility to Nazism vanished utterly; when it was discovered that Hitler and the Nazis were really very admirable people, and that the alliance signed in August 1939 served Soviet interests to perfection. On September 17, 1939 the Red Army invaded eastern Poland, having waited cautiously for over a fortnight until the Germans had crushed major Polish resistance. The next day in the Soviet newspaper *Izvestia* there appeared a long article by Tolstoy, exulting over the collapse of the Polish state.

It may appear small-minded to note that Tolstoy may have had a personal interest in the invasion. When Wilno was occupied by the Red Army in 1939-40, he sent an agent to buy up the cellar of the best hotel for his own private use.

It came as a very nasty shock to the Soviet Government when Hitler ungratefully launched his next attack on the safety barrier. The age of the train was yesterday, childhood, another country, and those of us who enjoy railways resent British Rail's lit because the attempt at now-nestless robs trains of glamour.

For who plays lorry drivers? What boy in his right mind arranges motorway pile-ups on his bedroom floor? Could anyone travel hopefully on a day trip to Victoria coach station? Or make a bit of "Pardon, me, boy, is that the inter-city diesel"? And who can forget the excursions of childhood?

I remember as though it were last week the waking before dawn for fear everyone else would oversleep, the wolfed bacon sandwich and mug of tea, the last chance to do number one in case the train had no corridor. All five of us squeezed into the tiny car for a short drive to the local station of Craven Arms, where we crossed the footbridge to the down platform, already packed with other parents and their children, burdened with packed lunch and swimming togs.

While adults swapped weather forecasts, most children looked up the track towards Shrewsbury for the 6.50, all four carriages of it. We wanted to sit near the driver but an officious guard directed us further back.

Now the sun was up, promising yet another glorious day of the kind we seldom see any more. Weeks of tropical warmth had not forewarned the crew, and radiators belched hot air till a father went to complain.

The view as we gathered speed enhanced even familiar villages like Broome, Bucknall and Hopton Heath but after Knuckle Halt the 13-arched viaduct took us across the border into a foreign country short on vowels and strong on 'ts'. Llangunllo, Llanbister Road and Troedrhiweddwen plunged us into abroad, the hails hardly long enough to read the names.

The next three towns had all become Something Wells when the line was built in 1865, bringing these remote drovers' towns within reach of metropolitan hypochondriacs. Llanrhiwod, Llangammarch and Llanwrtyd joined the roster of spas. A shed at one is said still to be full of the abandoned crutches of satisfied customers - a touch of PR to equal BR and trains on this line literally took the waters, bottles of barium by the cataract to connect at Swansea so that London health-breaks could complete their cures at home. All we saw from the carriage was a Hollywood swimming pool beside a great hotel.

After Sugar Loaf Summit, the way was all descent, through a deep tunnel and over another high viaduct with amazing views of a wooded valley. The beauty was almost monotonous - sheep fording streams, anglers waving from river banks, hikers on a suspension bridge - but relief came when we reached the gruesome collieries and works

Roy Strong

My trunk route grand tour

A cedar of Lebanon guards our house. I look out on it as I write. It is supposed to have been planted in 1815 and acts as a mnemonic for the date of the battle of Waterloo but, in another sense, it is the first tree that I ever really got to know well. It has been a good friend and a noble teacher because I have been frantically looking at and planting trees ever since.

It is an even better inspiration to be exposed to the enthusiasm of a genuine "tree man". The late Sir Richard Cotterell, a peppery soul and guardian of a mighty Repton landscape, was such. His eye and mind were all trees. Once, to mark the coronation, he walked me round his creation, Queen's Wood, just outside Hereford. We paused at each tree or group of trees considered its form and shape, when it was planted, and its rate of growth. There was almost a solemnity about our steady progress.

With another "tree man", Lawrence Banks, one swoops from one trunk to the next at Hergest Croft, exclaiming over its texture and colour with a fervour of aesthetic appreciation more generally applied to an antique textile. It is always exciting to be in touch with a way of looking at things which most of us bypass. For most ordinary mortals, trees are just things that happen to be there. I would quite like one day to go on a great trees of Britain tour in the same way as we visit our cathedrals or country houses. I for one have already begun to compile a personal anthology of favourites.

I would have to begin with the ancient oaks of England, and none for me can surpass those in the royal chase at Hatfield. I was once taken to see them by the late Dowager Marchioness of Salisbury in a hair-raising cross-field expedition to trace the eighteenth-century road that still remains there, a monument to times past when roads actually went round trees. There they were, vast gnarled specimens that must have witnessed many a royal hunting party, and beneath one of which the young Elizabeth I was sitting on the November day that the news came from London of her sister's death.

That, sadly, is now only a stump, so I would have to include another royal tree, the Boscombe oak, or rather its descendant. That still flourishes, although I have only seen it across the fields from the mount in the garden. The original perished as a result of the onslaught of souvenir hunters avid for twigs and whole branches. I would also have to include the vast evergreen or holm oak at Westbury-upon-Severn, at the side of an entrance to a great house directly opposite the lodge. Every spring one waits for the magic moment when this astonishing beacon blazes once more. I always feel grateful to whoever planted it for siting this rare and exotic tree where everyone who drives along the road from Tewkesbury to Burford over the Cotswolds can savour its glory.

Sir Roy Strong is Director of the Victoria & Albert Museum.

Peter Nichols

Making tracks to childhood

As everyone knows, this is not the Age of the Train. Not the age of the nightmail crossing the border but the container lorry careering across the safety barrier. The age of the train was yesterday, childhood, another country, and those of us who enjoy railways resent British Rail's lit because the attempt at now-nestless robs trains of glamour.

For who plays lorry drivers? What boy in his right mind arranges motorway pile-ups on his bedroom floor? Could anyone travel hopefully on a day trip to Victoria coach station? Or make a bit of "Pardon, me, boy, is that the inter-city diesel"? And who can forget the excursions of childhood?

I remember as though it were last week the waking before dawn for fear everyone else would oversleep, the wolfed bacon sandwich and mug of tea, the last chance to do number one in case the train had no corridor. All five of us squeezed into the tiny car for a short drive to the local station of Craven Arms, where we crossed the footbridge to the down platform, already packed with other parents and their children, burdened with packed lunch and swimming togs.

While adults swapped weather forecasts, most children looked up the track towards Shrewsbury for the 6.50, all four carriages of it. We wanted to sit near the driver but an officious guard directed us further back.

Now the sun was up, promising yet another glorious day of the kind we seldom see any more. Weeks of tropical warmth had not forewarned the crew, and radiators belched hot air till a father went to complain.

The view as we gathered speed

enhanced even familiar villages like Broome, Bucknall and Hopton Heath but after Knuckle Halt the 13-arched viaduct took us across the border into a foreign country short on vowels and strong on 'ts'. Llangunllo, Llanbister Road and Troedrhiweddwen plunged us into abroad, the hails hardly long enough to read the names.

The next three towns had all

become Something Wells when the line was built in 1865, bringing these remote drovers' towns within reach of metropolitan hypochondriacs. Llanrhiwod, Llangammarch and Llanwrtyd joined the roster of spas. A shed at one is said still to be full of the abandoned crutches of satisfied customers - a touch of PR to equal BR and trains on this line literally took the waters, bottles of barium by the cataract to connect at Swansea so that London health-breaks could complete their cures at home. All we saw from the carriage was a Hollywood swimming pool beside a great hotel.

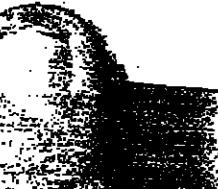
After Sugar Loaf Summit, the way was all descent, through a deep tunnel and over another high viaduct with amazing views of a wooded valley. The beauty was almost monotonous - sheep fording streams, anglers waving from river banks, hikers on a suspension bridge - but relief came when we reached the gruesome collieries and works

There is no logical reason why this line should continue. Butcher Beeching must have looked at the cost - now said to be £3,000 per passenger-journey - and longed to close it; Maudsley Marsh tried to but it passed through several marginal Labour seats and just survived. If the bridges start to go or the tunnels give, the axe will fall.

At Craven Arms, lit only by moon and stars, the platform filled again as we all got off. "Looks like the whole population," said the guard. His words rang a bell and some days later I recalled the original Lt David Tinker, killed on HMS Glamorgan just over a year ago, wrote of the Falklands: "It is, after all, only a rock with a village population on it: more people live in Craven Arms." And no one effectively challenges the billions that will be spent on the islands.

Wave a flag, beat a drum and politics becomes the art of the impossible. I am recruiting a band of terrorists to undermine the viaducts and harry the diesel. Then perhaps they will send a task force and what they have won they will have to maintain. It's worth fighting for. The Heart of Wales.

The author's most recent play, *Poppy*, was produced by the RSC last year.



مكتبة الملك فهد



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A GRAVEL VOICE FROM ETTRICK

Mr David Steel's missive from Tweeddale, Ettrick and Rambouillet has put his party in a tizzy. The tone suggests that the post-influenza asthenia of which his GP has spoken has not completely cleared up. The content makes it certain that the party's conference next month will be an acrimonious affair.

It was heading that way in any case. Sections of the party are still sore that the joint manifesto to which the Liberal leadership subscribed with their partners in the SDP was over-compromised. In particular it kept options open about the stationing of cruise missiles in Britain instead of coming out against it as the Liberal assembly had done, and it omitted mention of blood sports. So there is a move to strip the party leader of his final say on the manifesto.

Mr Steel has quite rightly made this a matter fundamental to his remaining leader. What matters is not that the last word on the manifesto should be personal to the leader but that it should remain with the parliamentary leadership and not be given to some extra-parliamentary body. With the awful warning before them of what happened to the Labour Party when it fought an election on a manifesto which most of its shadow ministers would have liked to disavow and had to explain away, and with a well-organized move to block the proposed amendment, it is unlikely that the critics of Mr Steel's "autocratic" leadership will win that point against him.

Mr Steel's letter ranges more widely than the details of the party constitution. It enters into personalities. He demands to

know why Mr Tony Greaves has not been up before a drum-head court martial for disgraceful conduct in the face of the enemy. Mr Greaves is chairman of the Association of Liberal Councillors which put out a distancing document of its own about policy in the course of the election campaign. He represents the pavement school of Liberal politics, which has usually been at odds with the party's shadow statesmen.

Mr Steel also demands to know why someone is not doing something about the Young Liberals, cavoring with Mr Ken Livingstone and Sinn Fein, and vulnerable, he suspects, to entrapment. He also has a smack at Mr Cyril Smith for not putting his weight in the Liberal "front bench" in the Commons.

One had supposed that since Mr Steel has so long and so successfully laboured in the vineyard of the Liberal party he must have become acclimatized to the disorderly doings that has always enriched its proceedings. Something has now happened to turn indulgence into exasperation.

That something - apart from any change in how Mr Steel personally is feeling - must be the fact that the Liberal party now stands within reach of the court. The party will also have to get its developing relationship with the Social Democratic Party right. Mr Steel is abundantly justified in trying to concentrate the minds of his colleagues and supporters on these matters ahead of their annual conference. Whether his abrasive way of doing it will go down well or badly is at this stage a question for specialists in the psychology of liberalism.

ODD MAN OUT AT MADRID

Plucky little Malta again stands alone, defending itself from the combined onslaught of the thirty-four other countries represented at the European security conference in Madrid. It is a matter of considerable significance that a meeting of foreign ministers next month could provide an opportunity for the US Secretary of State George Shultz to hold talks with the Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko in an effort to improve relations between the superpowers. But the Maltese delegation appears to give more weight to including in the final conference document an agreement on holding discussions on security and arms reductions in the Mediterranean area.

Insisting on these worthy aims, however, has prevented the participating countries - the United States, Canada and all European states except Albania - reaching the consensus required for the formal signing of the document concluding the three-year Madrid follow-up to the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE). In desperation Spain has now arranged a "political meeting" in September to endorse the final agreement, but unless Malta yields beforehand, this will not have formal CSCE standing.

The strains in East-West

relations have provided more than enough complex problems to keep delegates arguing interminably without introducing the Pandora's box of the Mediterranean and Middle East. Nonetheless, at Helsinki in 1975 Malta managed to insert in the Final Act a vague reference to the relationship which exists "in the broader context of world security, between security in Europe and security in the Mediterranean area". At Belgrade in 1978 Malta pressed successfully for a gathering of experts on Mediterranean cooperation to be held the following year in Valetta, but at the Madrid follow-up, the Maltese delegation failed to win support even from the non-aligned countries. Neither the Finns nor the Swedes succeeded with their compromise proposals, and in a rare show of agreement both the United States and the USSR have denounced Malta for blocking the conclusion of the conference.

In Malta itself Mr Dom Mintoff's ruling Labour Party is opposed on this issue by the Nationalist Party, which argues that he has no mandate from the other Mediterranean countries to speak on their behalf, and agrees with the general European view that his proposals are impractical. Mr Mintoff, however, en-

SHAKEN TO THE CORE

A claim that parts of Kent and Canvey Island, with its vulnerable concentration of oil and gas installations, could be hit by a "large earthquake" invites scepticism, like a report that the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse had asked for clearance to land at Heathrow. There is something millenarian, almost Monty Python-esque about it. Yet it was the subject of discussion this week in Brighton in that serious forum, the British Association for the Advancement of Science.

Dr Robert Muir Wood, a senior geologist with the engineering consultants, Principia Mechanica, displaying the fruits of his research into British earthquakes since the year 600, ended with a plea for the British, who "still believe earthquakes are about as English as pizza", to take the matter seriously and imitate the French and Germans by establishing a national network of monitoring stations.

Whitehall brims with contingency plans for disasters of all kinds, both man-made and acts of God, but not, it seems, for

earthquakes. A spokesman for the Cabinet Office, which houses the Civil Contingencies Unit, said there was nobody with a set of earphones crouching in a Whitehall cellar listening for tremors. Though the Institute of Geological Sciences, a part of the Natural Environment Research Council, does have a monitoring capability of a sort.

Dr Wood identified a number of earthquake-prone areas in Britain, one of which runs from the Pembroke Coast via Swansea to Hereford. A small earthquake in Hereford exactly eight years ago brightened the pages of an August Bank Holiday Weekend edition of *The Times*, as it surprised a sergeant in the Special Air Service at the Bradbury Barracks, who admitted that his regiment was not trained to withstand such shocks. It also inconvenienced a police sergeant who confessed that it has taken him an hour to console his parrot which fell from its perch. The headline "Earth tremor shakes Hereford Parrot" reflects just the kind of

specialist functions, but such par-

sons are rare.

Let us never forget how vital these posts are, how ineffective training courses are in developing the necessary qualities in those that do not have them, and how carefully therefore their holders must be pre-selected - as Trevethan and Northcote pointed out in the 1860s, as Haldane reiterated in 1918 and as Edward Bridges maintained to the end of his distinguished career.

Yours faithfully,
R. C. GRIFFITHS,
2 St Albans Villas, NW5.

Jobs in Whitehall

From Mr R. C. Griffiths
Sir, Your "Whitehall Brief" of August 2 blandly reports that the present surplus of Government economists at economic adviser level and above - an inevitable result of the specialist mania which swept through Whitehall in the 1960s and '70s - may well be converted into administrators with the prospect of filling "mainstream policy jobs". The same solution is no doubt being advocated for the many similar surplus staff in other graduate specialties.

Surely the administrative history of the last 35 years in Britain and elsewhere must at last have convinced all objective observers that these "mainstream" policy jobs in the centre of the government machine require - cannot be well done without - a combination of strong intellectual powers, complete political objectivity, a pleasant personality, genuine motivation for this form of public service and a life-long capacity for self-education.

These qualities can be, and often have been, found in people recruited to the Civil Service for particular

graduate specialties.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Second thoughts about the Rhine

From Vice-Admiral Sir Ian McGeachy
Sir, General Sir David Fraser has argued (August 19) that the advantages which you ascribe to taking BAOR out of the line are illusory. In supporting him, I would go further. Such a course would, I believe, be prejudicial to Britain's security and endanger the peace of Europe.

I am certainly willing and indeed keen to continue as leader, but only on the basis that the party itself is gearing its efforts to offering an alternative government to Mrs Thatcher at the next general election.

If it wants to poster about on the sedatives I will be happy to remain a loyal member but not to continue indefinitely as leader.

Mr Steel is not the first leader of the Liberal Party to try to galvanize his membership in the serious pursuit of political power. Mr Grimond marched his troops towards the sound of gunfire (imagine aptly presaging slaughter), and Mr Thorpe whetted their appetite with the red meat of politics. But Mr Steel is the first postwar Liberal leader to stand in a position from which the appeal sounds forth as more than braggadocio.

If the Liberal Party is to convince the voters that its thrust and its men are fit to be trusted with a primary share in government it will have to reform its political manners. Responsibility calls forth another style. If Prince Hal is to become King Harry, foolishness will have to be banished from the court. The party will also have to get its developing relationship with the Social Democratic Party right. Mr Steel is abundantly justified in trying to concentrate the minds of his colleagues and supporters on these matters ahead of their annual conference. Whether his abrasive way of doing it will go down well or badly is at this stage a question for specialists in the psychology of liberalism.

It seems to be somewhat inconsistent, to say the least, to complain of the West German Navy "wasting resources" acquiring an Atlantic capability while expressing concern about Nato's flanks and rear. As much flexibility of sea-air power as we and our Allies can achieve is as well as to ourselves. Until then perhaps we should re-examine the way in which it is proposed to deploy and operate the not inconsiderable naval and air forces available to Nato in north-west European waters for the defence of shipping and the destruction of Soviet air forces if they should attack.

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It seems to be somewhat inconsistent,

SOCIAL NEWS

Forthcoming marriages

Mr W. R. St J. Gore and Miss M. S. Collingridge The engagement is announced between William, son of Mr St. J. Gore of Great Farn, Stoke-by-Nayland, Suffolk, and Lucy Sutton, of Aldham, Mill, Hadleigh, Suffolk. and Mrs Susan, youngest daughter of the late Mr E. Collingridge, of Kington, Hunter's Hill, Sydney, Australia.

Mr R. D. Grant

and Miss R. E. Barrell

The engagement is announced between Robert Donald, son of Mr and Mrs Donald Grant, of Las Rozas, Madrid, Spain, and Jane Elizabeth, daughter of Mr and Mrs E. James Burrell of Hawey, Doncaster, South Yorkshire.

Mr A. Grant

and Miss R. E. Weddell

The engagement is announced between Alastair, son of Mr and Mrs A. M. Grant, of Newcastle upon Tyne, and Ruth, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. W. Weddell, of Bromley, Kent.

Mr P. P. R. Ward

and Miss S. de Pauley

The engagement is announced between Philip, son of the late Robin Ward and of Mme Christiane Ward, of Paris, and Sara, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. C. Y. de Pauley, of Hawkhurst, Devon.

Marriages

Mr R. S. Ledward and Lady Jane Seth-Smith

The marriage took place yesterday in London between Mr Rodney Ledward and Lady Jane Seth-Smith.

Mr R. Harris

and Miss H. Payne

Mr Richard Harris of Hongkong and Miss Helen Payne of Crawford, are being married today at the parish church of St John, Crawford, Northamptonshire.

Mr T. E. Pooley

and Mrs G. P. Lawson

The marriage took place on Monday, August 22, at Cheddington, Berkshire, between Mr Thomas Edward Pooley and Mrs Phil Lawson.

Mr K. S. J. Sunderland, RAOC and Mrs C. L. J. Pfeiffer

The marriage took place on Friday, August 26, at Marien Kirche, Düsseldorf, of Mr Keith Sunderland, second son of Flight Lieutenant and Mrs Gilbert Sunderland, of Bugbrooks, Northamptonshire, and Frau Claudia Pfeiffer, youngest daughter of Herr and Frau Rudolf Pfeiffer, of Düsseldorf, West Germany.

Christening

The infant son of Mr and Mrs Peter Demeridi was christened Guy Peter Michael Erskine at All Saints Church, Brandstoppel, on August 21 by the Rev Roger Dixon. The godparents are Michel Cousins, of Dalmatia; Mr Jeremy J. Nisce, the Count of Masi and Kellie (for whom Mrs Michael Demeridi stood proxy), and Mme Bernadette Delvaux, of whom Mr Peter Demeridi stood proxy.

Birthdays

TODAY: Professor William Beattie, 80; Sir Donald Bradman, 75; Sir Steven Crayford, 70; Lady Antonia Fraser, 51; Vice-Admiral Sir Peter Gell, 68; Sir Alexander Johnston, 76; Mr John Lloyd, 29; Miss Norah Loft, 79; Sir John Lomza, 87; Mr James Molyneux, MP, 62; Lord Plumb, 73; the Right Rev Richard Rutt, 58; Mother Teresa, 73; Sir Charles Troughton, 67; Mr Andy Turnell, 35; Lord Winstanley, 65.

TOMORROW: The Duke of Argyll, 46; Sir Kenneth Berrill, 63; Sir John Bejenian, 77; Air Vice-Marshal Sir Geoffrey Bromley, 92; Mr Justice Rimer Brown, 74; Mr Cecil Cottier, 64; Lord Cadogan, 70; Mr Arthur Durbin, 51; Sir Robert Hart-Davis, 76; Sir Godfrey Honneyfield, 64; General Sir William Jackson, 66; Miss Lynn Kennedy, 58; Dr Joseph Luns, 72; Air Chief Marshal Sir Nigel Maynard, 62; Miss Elain Meller, 40; Mr Benno Schotz, 92; Sir Thomas Scrivenor, 75; Mr David Soul, 39.

Summer success

The Royal Academy's summer exhibition, which closes on Sunday, is set to be the most successful show for more than 20 years with 120,000 attending, about 30,000 more than last year.

Science report

120-mile monster to smash the atom

Batavia, Illinois (NYT News Service) — Plans for what physicists say is the biggest pure science project in the history of Western civilization were unveiled recently in Batavia at the twelfth international conference on high-energy accelerators.

The proposal is for an atom smasher that might stretch through a circular tunnel for 120 miles and cost anything up to \$4,000m. It would be 40 times bigger than the present biggest accelerator which is at the Fermi National Laboratory in Illinois.

The physicists' review of various possible plans for the machine marks the first detailed discussion of the project. No national laboratory has room for such a machine, but various groups are making early bids.

Conference delegates said the heart of the new machine would be two huge rings of powerful magnets that would guide protons to blinding

Why justice and peace must stand alone

"Justice and peace will kiss each other", sings the Psalmist as he dreams of ultimate fulfilment of what Jesus was later to call the Kingdom of God. The Hebrew concept of *shalom*, normally translated as peace, far exceeds the absence of war. It embraces justice and describes a state of perfect harmony of the whole creation at one with the Creator.

At first sight it would therefore seem right to welcome without reservation the documents of the recent World Council of Churches' Assembly which go out of their way to emphasize that peace and justice are inseparable. Without justice, no peace. And — somewhat more hesitantly — without peace, no justice. It text after text the two concepts are interwoven until they seem to merge into one. The reason calls for some examination and the outcome for some critical reflection.

The delegates from the northern hemisphere (from San Francisco to Moscow, but

excluding most of Asia) were acutely aware of the danger of nuclear war between the superpowers. For them this is not merely a moral and political question. It raises the deepest spiritual issues.

Most delegates from the rest of the world could not understand this. Dr Alan Boesel from South Africa spoke for them when he said that many whose feelings he reflected did not know the meaning of the word nuclear, but they knew what hunger was. For two-thirds of humanity that is the only priority. For them economic justice is not merely a moral and political problem, it raises the deepest spiritual issues.

There was inevitable tension between these two groups at the WCC Assembly. The documents fail to reflect this sufficiently and to wrestle with the implications. All too readily they confuse both priorities without pointing to a deeper theological appreciation of either justice or peace.

The importance of peace and

of justice are beyond dispute. It is equally clear that they are related, but not in the simple and direct way that seems to be assumed. In fact the maintenance of peace will often perpetuate injustice. The struggle for justice will often provoke war. Injustice, it follows, is a threat to peace. Conversely, nuclear war would make any concept of justice irrelevant. But for the one to be presented as kissing the other in some kind of heavenly bliss is dangerously to make light of some grave earthly problems.

Dare I here quote the poet E. Y. Harburg, if out of context? *O innocent victim of Capital* Remember this terse little verse: *To let a fool kiss you is stupid. To let a kiss fool you is worse.*

Some of the WCC's rhetoric seems to run that lazier risk, to weave justice and peace into a harmonious tapestry when there is little harmony. Justice and peace each demands its own discipline. To equate them is to fall victim to an ideological

Recent social theology. Can-

onic and Protestant, has rather too readily accepted the cliché that development is the new word for peace. In reality it is successful development that can put enough food in stomachs and money in pockets to bring out the machine guns. That is part of the human tragedy. It is not an argument against develop-

ment. Yes, ultimately economic justice will make for peace, even if in the short run the opposite can't be true. Ultimately peace will be seen as a prerequisite for justice, even if in the short run it may impede it. Meanwhile, to feed the children of the world is both possible and morally necessary. To prevent nuclear war is both possible and morally necessary. There is more than one connection. But to confuse the two may be to will to achieve neither.

Paul Oestreicher
The author is Secretary of the Division of International Affairs of the British Council of Churches.

Services tomorrow: Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL: HC, 8.15. 10.30. Mr. T. D. Seddon, in C. Rev. G. R. Rutter, Dr. G. D. Clegg, Canon of Winchester, Dr. G. J. Williams, Canon of Gloucester, Canon of Hereford, Canon of Lichfield.

ST MARY MAJOR ABBEY: HC, 8.15. 10.30. J. A. Abbott, Dr. P. C. Cooper, Canon of Winchester, Dr. G. J. Williams, Canon of Gloucester, Canon of Hereford, Canon of Lichfield.

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ST MARY MAJOR CHURCH: HC, 8.15. 10.30. Canon of Winchester, Canon of Gloucester, Canon

**DON'T MISS YOUR
CHANCE TO WIN
A FORD SIERRA:
SEE PAGE THREE**

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THE TIMES Saturday

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Values: Backpacking guide and Shopfront; Drink; The Times garden project; Review: Classical records; Theatre and Galleries

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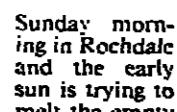
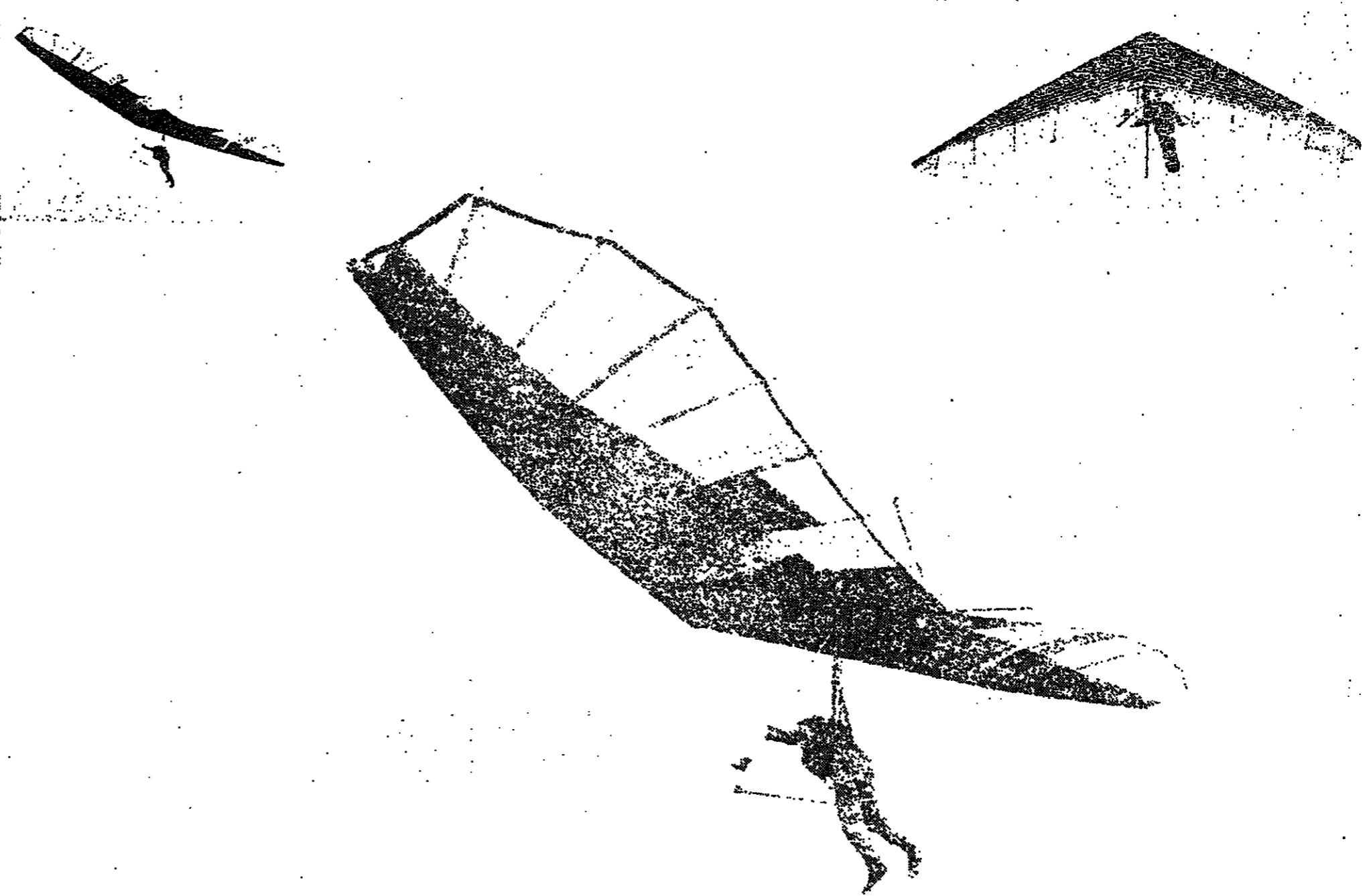
Critics' Choice of Music, Dance and Films; Films on TV; Bridge; Chess; Family Life on back to school; and The Week Ahead

27 AUGUST - 2 SEPTEMBER 1983 A WEEKLY GUIDE TO LEISURE, ENTERTAINMENT AND THE ARTS

Ronald Faux finds the acceptable face of hang-gliding, a sport which has made great strides towards improving its safety record

Richard Cook

Easy glider



Sunday morning in Rochdale and the early sun is trying to melt the empty car park outside the Tesco supermarket. A small group of student hang-glider pilots - local lads of several sizes and shapes and walks of life who share a Daedalus urge - waits for its chief flying instructor to turn up.

Car roof-racks are loaded with the bright cocoons of jinked aircraft that overlap bonnet and boot. Tony Delaney arrives. He is a wiry, fair-haired man, with an enthusiasm for leaping off hilltops supported only by a few square feet of bellowing sailcloth. He also has the patience and perseverance to pass on that ability safely to others. But not today.

He gives the sky a critical look, sniffs the air and looks pessimistic. Not a breath of breeze is stirring in the centre of Rochdale. "Sorry lads, flying's off today. There's no lift", he announces. No one protests. They accept that without a reasonable rush of air, trying to hang-glide is as pointless as sailing down a sand dune.

The others disperse, but I stay for my first lesson in the car park. Mr. Delaney and his assistant, who is about to train as a fighter pilot in the RAF, rig up what resembles an aluminium gibbet. I slip on a harness of straps, lift my legs and dangle there.

Tony Delaney directs my hands to a large aluminium triangle on the simulator and describes how I should shift my weight from side to side to make the glider turn. "Look ahead", he instructs, and I fix my sights sternly on a shrub 40ft away. I try to imagine myself prone beneath the elegant sweep of a delta wing with the world swirling beneath me, but it is difficult.

The Northern School of Hang-Gliding normally teaches its pupils on Lobstone Moor, a few miles out of town. Tony Delaney's opinion about flying conditions was confirmed when we got there. A pupil from the school waited at the bottom of the hill disconsolately. It was a hopeless day, he said. He had made a couple of flights but had come down the hill like a rock. "I gave up because the fracture in my foot is not properly healed yet."

A hang-gliding accident? Not really. He had found lugging his folded machine to the hilltop such hard work that he had taken up jogging to get fit. He was out jogging when he tripped up and broke his foot.

He insisted that hang-gliding was a perfectly safe sport - even the insurance companies now accepted that as a fact, and they were shrewd judges.

Even so, I asked, the human leg was surely never designed to double as an aircraft undercarriage? Nonsense, had I ever seen a bird with fat legs? The secret was to land with such gentleness that the strain would be no more than stepping off a slow-moving bus.

Gerry Breen, one of the foremost hang-gliding and light aviation pioneers in Britain, admitted that there was a danger in the early days of the sport but times had changed. He remembered launching himself off hilltops strapped to the most chilling contraptions made from bamboo, suring, polythene and Sellotape. Hang-gliders were now highly developed aircraft, stable and rugged despite their looks. They could ride the wind securely and climb to 8,000 ft or more.

Eventually, when the wind pipes up on Lobstone Moor, I will continue my training with a thorough briefing in aerodynamics, and the theory of how these delta-shaped aircraft, an early spin-off from the American space programme, actually fly. I will be taught how to rig the glider and allowed to make a few tentative hops off the ground.

From there a student progresses to tethered flight. He is strapped to the glider, which is flown like a kite with three control ropes held by instructors on the ground. The trainee learns the subtleties of controlling the machine until the wing-tethers are removed to allow more rope. Finally the machine accelerates and rises rapidly.

Further progress extends to ridge soaring, riding the thrust of air as it strikes the edge of a hill, or circling in the bubbles of warm air that form thermals for extended flights. Finally, there is the challenge of cross-country flying, feasible on high-performance machines. The British record set last year by Robert Calvert of Preston is around 112 miles.

There are some 3,500 hang-glider pilots in Britain, a small minority of whom take part in the international circuit of competitions. These are the ultimate challenge in the sport, and British pilots have won a dominating position in spite of Britain's relatively low hills and restricted air space.

People of reasonable nerve, balance and coordination who keenly want to fly are usually untroubled and making their first downhill solo after three days' training, although gusty weather can cause delay. Within five days the student may have qualified as a "Pilot One", fledged but with a lot to learn.

Tony Delaney says: "We may lose contact at that point. All students are obliged to become members of the British Hang-Gliding Association (BHGA), as an adventure sport

and when they leave the hang-gliding is less risky than training school they usually join their local club. They fly on their local hills under the guidance of their club training officer."

There are some crucial manoeuvres to master. The circle turn is often a sensitive one. Flying into the wind a hang-glider is relatively easy to control, but downwind the aircraft accelerates and loses altitude rapidly. The most dangerous point occurs when a pilot allows his aircraft to go too slowly when the wind is blowing from behind. The hang-glider speeds up rapidly over the ground, but the actual rush of air over the wings may not be enough to keep the aircraft aloft. A downwind stall then happens, and if the aircraft is less than 100ft from the ground, recovery is impossible. A crash is inevitable.

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It is easy to accept that hang-gliding is an exhilarating sport and the closest to true flying, but is the risk justified? According to Mr Barry Blore, principal executive officer of the BHGA, as an adventure sport

hang-gliding is less risky than flying training is. In the last two years there have been five fatal accidents. Five years ago, with half the number of pilots spending less time in the air, 18 people died in a year.

The agreement between the BHGA and the manufacturers of hang-gliders to sell aircraft only to the holders of pilot certificates is not legally binding but is strictly followed. According to the BHGA, 95 per cent of hang-gliding accidents can be attributed to pilot error. The most vulnerable pilots appear to be those who have qualified as Pilot Ones. Those who have joined a club where the training facilities are less well organized.

The governing body of the sport, the British Hang-Gliding Association, is at 167a Cheddon Road, Taunton, Somerset (0823 88140). The Association provides a list of the 22 approved training centres which organize courses in Britain.

The Northern School of Hang-Gliding is at 65 Highbury Avenue, Irlam, Manchester (061775 4422). The school offers five-day courses, £15 a day for students and the unemployed, otherwise £22.50 per weekday and £25 each Saturday and Sunday. Aircraft and kit are provided. Secondhand machines suitable for beginners cost from £250. Top performance hang-glider will cost up to £1,000.

An excellent practical guide to the sport is given in *Hang Glider Pilot* by Ann Welch and Gerry Breen (John Murray, London), £4.50.

Up on the Downs with the wind in their favour: Members of the Southern Hang-Gliding Club hang fast and loose on their flights at Fife Beacon in Kent

be damaged by collision or extreme turbulence. Altogether 133 incidents were reported last year to the BHGA in which no one was seriously injured. Only 17 happened at flying training centres, and more than half were from hitting trees, walls, hang-gliders on the ground and a telegraph pole as the pilot came in to land.

Improvements in training and aircraft design have reached a point where hang-gliding is more than acceptably safe: it is the most rewarding and easily the cheapest form of flying. "That accepted, there is clearly some risk", Mr Blore said. "If there wasn't, nobody would bother to do it."

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Ivan Barnes recommends that the traveller in Syria ignores the present and rejoices in the past

With open eyes on the road from Damascus

Three hours' drive from Damascus, north-east across the Syrian desert, lies Palmyra. The journey gives interesting glimpses of the desert's occupants. They seem to be of just two categories, both migratory. The Bedouin are there with their old, familiar flocks and tents and their modern vehicles. The Syrian army also has modern vehicles and more besides.

The one group tends its sheep, the other its Soviet weaponry, with similar lack of haste and with apparent disinterest. I suspect that I got as sharp a picture of today's Syria through that car window as at any time during my week in the country.

Palmyra, the city of the palms, is yesterday's Syria. It is the spectacular ruin of a civilization that reached its peak in the second and third centuries A.D. It was brutally snuffed out by the Romans when its inhabitants, and particularly its ambitious queen, Zenobia, got too big for their sandals.

Here, in a hollow in the middle of the desert, is a clear, slightly sulphurous spring, the *Aqiq*. From the spring came an oasis and from the oasis came, eventually, Palmyra. The city prospered because it was an ideal stopping place on the ancient caravan routes. Palmyra's rich merchants owned ships, depicted in carvings here, in the Arabian Gulf and the Indian Ocean. The city outlasted its great rival to the south, Petra, in present-day Jordan.

My group visited Palmyra's museum, interesting enough in itself but made more so by a chat with Khaled Assad, its director. He is Palmyran by birth, jovial and enthusiastic. He brings the whole place to life and relishes the thought that his own town, all those centuries ago, for a moment could claim to be the richest city in the world.

A large area of the site has yet to be excavated, and it was fascinating to watch the director handling, explaining and speculating upon some artefact that had been unearthed that very morning. Syria is said to contain some 3,000 historic sites. They are not all Palmyras, but I do not argue with the

Underneath the arches: Classical pillars frame the seventeenth-century Turkish castle at Palmyra.

figure. There are certainly enough to satisfy every taste.

The one that lured me there above all others though, was Krak des Chevaliers, the monastic Crusader castle guarding the Homs gap - the route from the coast to the hinterland. Ever since I visited my first castle in Britain and heard of the Krak I felt that I must see it.

As one of the wonders of the world of military architecture (and as a modest youthful ambition fulfilled) it was not disappointing. But though its curators have done much to make the Krak accessible, much remains to be done. It is not easy to find your way around or to understand this place in a brief visit with the literature and guides that may be available on the spot. With the

Krak, as with so much in Syria, it is advisable to plunder one's library and bookshop for background information before setting out.

Damascus is not a city that charmed me, though it does have magnificent sights, notably the Great Omayed Mosque, built originally from the eighth century but almost completely reconstructed following a succession of earthquakes and fires through the ages. Round the corner from the mosque is Saladin's tomb, restored courtesy of Kaiser Wilhelm II, and both stand in a souk to satisfy the most demanding haggar (particularly one in search of carpets).

The Ministry of Tourism is making a great effort to increase the number of western visitors to Syria. Clearly this is not an easy task. Most westerners would not even begin to think of the place for a holiday because of what they read in their newspapers.

So why consider Syria? Not for the food, I think. Of my small sample, a group of six, four suffered stomach upsets, though admittedly these may have been brought on not so much from eating as from watching our driver consume the more interesting organs of a barbecued ram at lunch. (Being one of the lucky - or careful - pair, I did not take this problem too seriously. It is important to retain a sense of humour.)

Not for the beaches. There is a stretch around Latakia that is quite respectable, but the

Mediterranean is more inviting elsewhere.

What attracts are the Krak and the other 2,999 places where you feel that you can choose to touch briefly virtually any part of the past. Syria appeals to travellers rather than to tourists. Yet it is probably better to tour than to travel alone, if for no other reasons than that self-drive car hire is almost non-existent and that an escort almost certainly saves considerable trouble at the numerous security checkpoints.

To holiday in Syria, then, one needs to be searching for the past. To have a really pleasant time it is better to be ignorant of, or to ignore, the present.

The perceived danger is, as these things usually are, not particularly relevant. The only

people in Syria who are routinely in danger, for example, from the government or the Syrians themselves - and some Palestinians, of course - certainly not holidaymakers dreaming of the past.

Gaze at the *norias*, the giant water-wheels on the Orontes at Hama and wonder - but not about the thousands, perhaps as many as 10,000, who died there in the rebellion - was put down 18 months ago. Reflect upon Aleppo from its spectacular citadel - but not upon the scores who died there in the 1980 revolt. Look through the car window for the beds and his flock - but not for the soldier and his anti-air missiles.

Ah, Zenobia, what progress we have made.

Visas required in advance for individuals travellers or groups of fewer than 10 people. Four travel agents will normally be able to arrange for a visa quite quickly. Vaccination protection, cholera and polio.

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Swan Hellenic, 237-238 Tottenham Court Road, London, W1 (081 80793).

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Never too old for the open road or fairytale castles



Way to the heart of France: Through the Loire and gears like the Château of Chenonceau

You will want to see the birthplace of 'Rabelais', she said, swerving round a jugged-out Not that we had much choice, with our rucksacks already stacked under the bonnet of our VW and the three of us beetling along the road from Chinon to Saumur. It was, she said, only a few kilometres out of our way. "I will take you."

So there we were at La Devinière, a fifteenth-century cottage festooned with drawings, maps, curling photographs and illustrations of Rabelaisian characters. A shrine, certainly, but not, perhaps, the birthplace. Rabelais was born between 1483 and 1494, at a time when customs obliged expectant bourgeois to set off for their country houses the moment labour began. If one can believe *Gargantua* - more or less his autobiography - Madame Rabelais brought the great man into the world somewhere along the road we had just travelled, probably soon after a vicious bump.

Outside, Marie, our beneficent, waited patiently, smoking Dunhills. "You are thirsty perhaps? Come, we will have a drink *chez moi*."

Then, in her eighteenth-century kitchen, its long walls encrusted with fine-art posters, we were introduced to her daughter and to the local *rouge-pouré* from an unlabelled bottle. Marie was a teacher at a lycée in Chinon. Like us, she had seen the stunning Manet exhibition in Paris. We compared posters (hers, she explained, were to cover cracks in the plaster). We must come and stay, any time. There were many unused rooms.

Returning to the main road, we were shown the schoolhouse of Rabelais, and admired what may be the last fortified farmhouse in the Loire. Then a tedious half-hour by the roadside while the French, with an impressive display of body language, gesticulated their reasons for not giving us a lift. Finally we made it to Saumur, where we were horribly cheated at a tourist cafe.

"I love France, but I hate the French," an English emigre told us in Paris. "They're mean-minded and they'll cheat you when they can." Like most generalizations, it told us more about its author than its subject. In the Loire, the heart of France, we found much kindness, information offered, maps



Rabelais: Born travelling



Both Michelin and Letts publish camping guides to France. Neither is comprehensive; they just take up rucksack room. Better to arrive at a town and ask for a site - no need to book if you only have a tent. For general information, the Michelin Guide Vert, *Châteaux de la Loire* is excellent. For eating out try *Le Gault-Millau* for light reading, *Le Grand Meaulnes* by Alain-Fournier (Penguin, £1.50), set in the Loire.



Yankee

given free, a five-mile diversion to take us to a camp site.

For these small mercies I was grateful, for it had been many years since I had hitch-hiked.

The call of the open road had grown faint. But mortgage, bank loan and the cost of taking a car across the Channel combined to rule out a foreign holiday, or so it seemed. Cunningly, my wife and I caught a bus to Paris (£28 return) and thwarted the forces of stringency. From there we took a train to Chartres, and from there we stuck out our thumbs. We reckoned that by hitching and camping we could eat and drink our fill for a week and still return with change from £100. Only the fun of the duty-free shop defeated us.

And, of course, there is simply nothing to beat eating in France. The sensitivity of service, the smiling *bon appetit*, the crusty bread, the prices...

For 48f in *La Caffetteria* in Vendôme - and picture a quiet, well-lit restaurant on the banks of the Loir (not to be confused with its grander sister) and 10 candlelit tables as dusk falls - I had *lapin à la ménage* (wonderfully stuffed), a salad mixed as only the French can mix, a home-made sorbet.

At midnight we strolled happily back to the municipal camping site in which Vendôme, like most French towns, takes such pride. In front of our tent stood a Gallic figure in pyjamas, shining a torch into the river.

"Qu'est-ce que vous cherchez monsieur?"

He answered not, but pointed to the shallows where small fish wriggled, mesmerized by the glare. With a net, he would have been a poacher, but he was just a curious amateur naturalist.

And so to bed, we to our £24 Korean tent, he to his caravan, to watch their colour television, for the French take camping seriously. Their tents are mar-

ried to the ground and we were terrified to touch the metal tent poles.

Despite the skills of the Koreans, and the assurances of the shop assistant, the rain

filtered through the nylon and dripped upon us.

I was struck by a thought. "I think," I said, "that I might be getting too old for all this."

There's a bottle of red in my rucksack," said Susan.

In the Loire, they have nature balanced very nicely.

Peter Brown

Brief encounter with an agreeable Alsation

From the British point of view the advantage of Colmar is that it is on the Victoria line. The cross-Channel rail connection with the 10.30am boat train from Victoria stops at Colmar before rushing off to central Europe. The disadvantage is that in the summer it arrives at 22 minutes after midnight. But never mind. Colmar's grandest hotel, the *Terminus-Bristol*, is right opposite the station entrance and there is no need to fret about taxis.

The next morning connoisseurs of railway architecture will note that Colmar's station is one of the finest examples of its kind, complete with clock tower and apple green roof. Even the *buffet de la gare* is worth a look. It is vast for a town of this size, with ante-rooms off the main restaurant whose high ceiling comes in a different shade of green, lavatorial this time. Waiters doze, passengers eat, reasonably if not exceptionally. It is the ideal setting for a *Gallic Brief Encounter*.

The recommendation though, for those using Colmar as a base for a few days in Alsace is to stay at the Champs de Mars. From the outside it has no charm, but it is in a park, the welcome is warm, although the restaurant poor, and the rooms (about £20 for a double) are very well appointed. It is also on the edge of the old city. Cross the Place Rapp, pass a glass-enclosed chip shop called *L'Ami Fritz* (an obscure musical joke, I assume, as the best known opera set in Alsace is *Macbeth* or *L'Ami Fritz*) and you are there.

Colmar is one of the few Alsation towns to have emerged virtually unharmed from the last war. The forces of General de Lattre de Tassigny captured it almost intact on February 2, 1945 and that is the way the town council have kept it since. The medieval centre is now almost entirely a pedestrian precinct, with ample displays of *charcuterie* and *foie gras*. In this



Travel notes

This is the tourist Colmar, much visited by coaches from the German side of the Rhine, so avoid bank holidays and especially religious ones when picking your date. The real Colmar is probably found down by the banks of the river in the area called with a remarkable lack of originality, *Petit Venise*.

The main reason for visiting Alsace is likely to be gastronomic. Both of France's leading guides, Michelin and Gault Millau, need map enlargements for the area between Strasbourg and Belfort. Colmar's best restaurant by several lengths is Schillinger, unimpressive without but seriously elegant within. The service is beyond criticism and the prices are correspondingly on the high side. Saturday-lunch on the *prix fixe* menu, with a bottle of '81 Riesling from Faller (one of the last known but best of the Alsace houses) cost me 300f

(about £25). It was worth it. To eat on a much more modest scale try *La Taupin* down near *Petit Venise*.

Surprisingly Colmar has very few places offering a *dégustation* of the local wines. To do this properly requires a car - local bus services are terrible - and a trip to the hills. Riquewihr is the obvious place to head for. But I have a soft spot for Ribeauville and an even softer one for Kaysersberg where the Restaurant Chambard and attached hotel have a growing reputation. Gastronomes are well aware of the longstanding rivalry between Ammerschwihr and Illhaeusern with the latter running ahead at the moment both in accolades and prices. But some punters reckon that Chambard is coming up on the outside.

For a report on the wines themselves see Jane MacQuitty's column in *Saturday*, April 30. It is rare to find a bad bottle of Alsace, but I would, because of the high acidity of many varieties, counsel not going for the very cheapest. A couple of months ago one of London's leading wine merchants regretted cutting back the number of Alsaces on his list to two because of "lack of consumer interest". He should organize a trip to Colmar immediately to rectify the situation - and shame on the consumers!

John Higgins

Travel notes

How to get there: by rail, from Victoria, 288 second-class return.

Excursion fare £75.60 for minimum stay of five days plus restrictions on trains used.

From Paris the journey takes about five hours, using the TEE to Strasbourg and then changing to the Colmar line. By air, Heathrow to Strasbourg using Air France, then by train. The airport at Strasbourg is tiny, sparkling, but the duty-free limited.

WEEK 1

COLLECTING

Medalling in modern art and history

The medallion has suffered from a bad reputation for almost 20 years. The pieces issued in their masses by some of the commercial producers have often shown scant regard to any pretence of artistic achievement.

Medals are such collectable items - but they are also for handling and enjoying. Now the British Art Medal Society offers a limited number of artistic cast bronze medals for sale to its members. The society aims to encourage and promote the work of modern medalists and to see that the medal is more readily accepted as an art form. Members are asked to suggest both themes and medalists, though the society's council has the final word. It is hoped that the society will soon be in a strong enough position to advise institutions or individuals how to commission a medal. It hopes, too, that it will soon be able to sponsor an annual medal competition.

The society is already collaborating with the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations in organizing a competition for British artists to produce a medal to celebrate World Food Day on October 16, 1983. For artist members there will be forums to discuss the problems of medal making, and it is hoped that there will be exhibitions of the work commissioned.

The British Art Medal Society held its inaugural meeting in April 1982, and it is now firmly established. In its first year the society commissioned eight medals, and members are obliged to purchase just one each from the annual election. Details of the medals are published and illustrated in a lively bi-annual journal, *The Medal*. There are no restrictions on membership and the individual subscription is £10 a year (corporate members £30). All the medals are sold at the same, eminently collectable price of £27, regardless of the medalist.

So far the small membership has spread its commitment to purchase over the full range available. The most heavily

subscribed medal is one by Ron Dutton, which commemorates the founding of the society, and so far 32 have been sold. The society does not pretend to be in the business of mass-marketing. Nearly all of its bronze medals are cast to order and are truly limited editions.

The first eight medals issued illustrate clearly how wide a variation of style, texture and art can be accommodated on a small two-sided piece of bronze. Ron Dutton's medal shows sheep grazing in open moorland, while the reverse dedication to the society follows the plough furrows of an English country scene. Mark Holloway has produced a Muse, a double-sided head, using its own outline as the shape and edge of the medal, while Annabel Eley's carnival theme uses a crowded group of faces for an irregular outline.

Jane McAdam has used the big river as it slugs along to the Bay of Biscay.

The villages on these tributaries are the region's charms, and Azay is no exception, with winding streets, wickerwork and an eleventh-century church. We camped by the river.

Next day, from a *dégustation* (wine-tasting) in a converted garage, we chose a medium dry white (13°) from a chateauneuf, fresh salmon and Muscadet, pâté and rillettes (strands of soft potted pork), a *Touraine* speciality.

We climbed past kitchen gardens, not a grain of soil wasted, along roads lined with sweet and horse chestnut and ripening walnut, their verges a profusion of wych, lords-and-ladies, cornflower and poppies (little pollution here), and we feasted.

Coming back we passed a troglodyte dwelling, carved from the soft tufa bequeathed by their shoes and socks, and bouldered us round the almost empty rooms (the French court tended to take their furniture with them; I suspect it all landed up in Versailles). Here we heard the terrible tale of the *Duc de Guise*, all France behind him, pressing King Henri to return to the true faith. The King stood here, behind the curtain. Two rooms away, his men waited to stab the duke, who fell, mortally wounded at the King's feet, here. And now to the bedroom of...

the troglodyte dwelling - three small caves, and the washing hanging outside - warranted a picture, but the click of the Instamatic on a silent afternoon produced a troglodyte dog which saw us back to Azay at a trot. There the thunderstorms which killed seven campers that week were gathering ranks.

When they came, they timed it well. The son et lumiere at the moated château, a tantalizingly bend from our tent, was nearly through, and we were listening entranced to the lutes, harps and choirs when the first lightning flashed. We thought it was part of the show.

The *son et lumière* that followed was real enough, and lasted all night. The thunder shuddered, the lightning lit up the sky, and we were terrified to touch the metal tent poles.

Despite the skills of the Koreans, and the assurances of the shop assistant, the rain filtered through the nylon and dripped upon us.

I was struck by a thought. "I think," I said, "that I might be getting too old for all this."

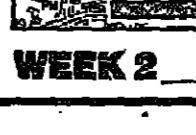
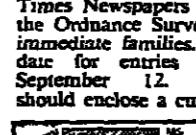
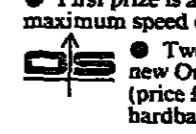
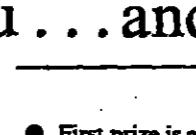
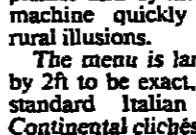
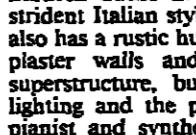
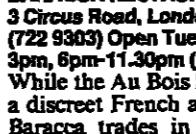
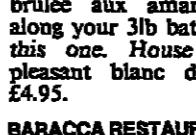
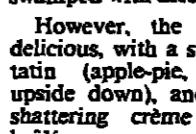
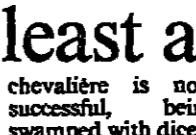
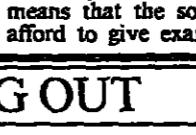
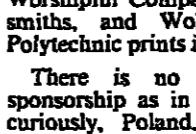
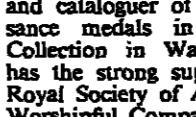
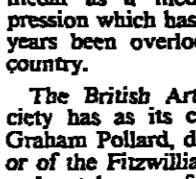
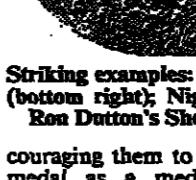
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COLLECTING

Medalling in modern art and history

British Museum



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VALUES

Ronald Faux describes how good hiking equipment can make travelling light a reality

Taking a weight off the backpackers' shoulders

The Italian climber Reinhold Messner, the world's most accomplished solo mountaineer and backpacker, summed up his experience thus: "I move like a snail with my home on my back, moving slowly but always moving". His record is an extreme demonstration of what one man may achieve at an unrelenting pace and by travelling light. He has climbed 10 of the world's 8,000 metre peaks (including two ascents of Everest) always with his home on his back, but at a speed that would leave the fastest snail well behind. There is a great satisfaction, he believes, in being a modern-day, self-contained nomad exploring a wilderness with his roof, bed, kitchen and larder all packed neatly into one rucksack.

Richard and Adrian Crane, brothers from Keswick, recently ran the full length of the

Himalayas living in ultra-light style, but there are less spectacular ways of enjoying long-distance rambling and being self-sufficient in wild countryside.

Modern materials, ingenious designs and a demanding market have removed much of the early pain from backpacking. You can go to ground or take to the hedgerows in civilized comfort these days. There is no need to suffer the misery of the poorest tent, clothing that soaks up the wet as it lets in the cold, millstone cooking stoves and tinned foods, boots that are heavy enough to pin down a diver and rucksacks supported on a frame that might have been an instrument of torture.

All that has changed. Scientists and designers with an awareness of ergonomics have improved the whole range of

outdoor equipment so that a walker need waste no energy carrying unnecessary weight. I have never refined weight-watching to the extent of one trekker who sawed all his cutlery in half to save an extra ounce. But such careful thought does save energy.

Drenched misery

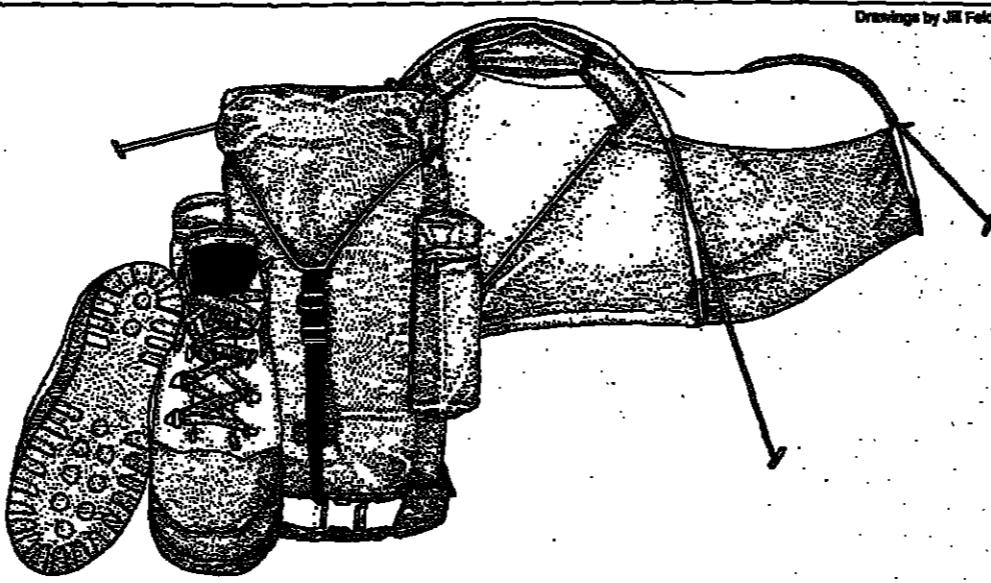
The final selection of kit is determined by the proposed route. The Pennine Way, with a compass to pinpoint the route across difficult sections around Kinder Scout. For the ground between the peat "groughs" and inky ooze, walkers should allow themselves the luxury of *Pennine Way Companion* by A. Wainwright (Westmorland Gazette, £3.40 approx in dry weight), to lead them past waterfalls that are blown backwards on windy days, and over the "soggy

labyrinth" where Wainwright warned that one should not whoop for joy upon coming across other footprints. "Too often they are no more than the erratic wanderings of some unhappy wretch as hopelessly lost as yourself."

There are many other cross-country walks in the British countryside, and probably the best collection is described in two books edited by Ken Wilson and Richard Gilbert, called *Classic Walks* and *The Big Walks*, both published by Diadem at £17.95 and £16.95 respectively.

The range of equipment available is vast and the claims made alluring. My selection below is based on practical experience of walking in the remote parts of England and Scotland, often far away from organized campsites and human contact.

Drawings by JH Field



Pod protection

My choice of tent is the Peapod by Ultima (illustrated here), a rugged, double-skinned, tunnel tent that so far has proved impervious to heavy weather. Instead of conventional poles, fibreglass rods hold the tent in shape and bend to the heavy winds. It packs into a small bag, weighs 3.15 lbs and sleeps one comfortably, two at a crush. The flysheet entrance extends into a generously sized cooking/wet storage area. The Peapod costs a little less than £100 from Ultimate Equipment, Ryburn Mill, Hanson Lane, Halifax, West Yorkshire (0422 42011). There are lighter tents, including the Phoxhole, an aptly named shelter for the lone walker, made by Phoenix Tents. This small tent is a neat tube in Goretex, the revolutionary material that keeps out water but inhibits condensation by "breathing". The Phoxhole weighs 2lb 10oz and costs £120. Also good value is the Three-rain.

Go shell

In the changeable British weather there is a great advantage in using what designers now call "shell" clothing - a lightweight, waterproof, outer layer with warmer clothing underneath. I have had excellent service from the Brasher hill suit, made in Goretex by Brasher. It has a wind and weather-proof jacket and trousers that are light and comfortable to wear, with sensible sized hood and pockets. Every seam is taped for extra protection. It costs £99.95 from Brasher, 34 Dean Street, Newcastle on Tyne, Tyne and Wear (0632 323561). For cold conditions, fibre-pile clothing is loose, comfortable and absorbs any moisture.

Feathered friends

Where weight and compactness are important, I have found traditional down-filled sleeping bags superior, although a plastic bin liner to keep the material dry is a wise precaution. Technology has moved on a pace since the days when a night spent in a feather-filled sleeping bag left all the traces of a duckpond bawl the following

morning. The Arctic Patagonia is filled with duck down, weighs only 2lb 2oz. It costs £84.90 from Arctic Products, Jacob's Street Mills, Manchester Road, Bradford, West Yorkshire (0274 28674) and gives excellent protection in everything but biting winter conditions. The Lightline, by Mountain Equipment, is duck-down-filled, weighs only 1lb 14oz and packs to 11in x 7in. Available from Mountain Equipment, George Street, Glossop, Derbyshire (0457 43770) at £79.95. Ultimate offer a good, keenly priced range of sleeping bags with artificial filling.

Light on your feet

There has been a quiet revolution in footwear for mountain walkers. The KSB3 by Karrimor introduced a new concept of lightweight footwear into the British market with a studded sole resembling a football boot that gives a fine grip on rough terrain. Available from outdoor specialists at £46.40, or from Karrimor International, Avenue Parade, Accrington, Lancashire (0254 385911). The Brasher boots (illustrated here) at £39.95 are similar in concept with cushioning and waterproof protection that works. They are stoutly made by K Shoes but weigh only 16oz, a sharp difference from the traditional, unbending mountain boot. Available from Fleetfoot, 26 St Georges Quay, Lancaster, Lancashire (0524 33317).

Carry in comfort

My Ultimate Phazor Pilgrim rucksack (illustrated here) contains all my kit comfortably for a cost of £29.95, although the competition from Brasher and Karrimor is strong. I easily prefer the frameless, shaped rucksack of the Pilgrim type as being most comfortable and easy to carry, distributing the load onto the pelvis.

Steady eating

A huge selection of stoves is available, but gas cylinders are cleanest and most compact. The smallest is Survival Aid's Fire King, which costs £1.99, lasts 90 minutes in calm conditions and is non-toxic. Available from Survival Aids, Morland, Pen-

rith, Cumbria (0931 4307). The Peak I is a petrol stove that is safe and substantial and costs £27.75. The Gaz Globetrotter has the advantage of being extremely stable and lightweight; it comes enclosed in its own cooking pots and a meths-fired stove complete with cooking pans, kettle, frying pan and cutlery.

■ Here's to flower power, and to three designers who have turned their talents to the art of displaying plants - some going up in the world, some definitely headstrong and some indisputably woolly minded. The climbers are Shirley Hardwick's favourite plants, and she has designed a pot specially for them. It is hand-made in stoneware, with a stake cemented into a central tube so that trailing plants can wind their way upwards.

■ The head is one of a boy-girl pair of plant containers to hang on outside walls. They are cast in terracotta by Rocke's Pottery, who otherwise specialize in hand-thrown garden pots, ranging from small ones at 85p to large jardinières at £24. Rocke also undertake special designs to commission, and they have a range of glazed dishes for presentation and anniversaries. A recent "family tree" dish was

designed for a ninetieth birthday - the subject represented as the roots of a great chestnut tree and the various generations as its branches. It costs £23. The terracotta heads are available in the florist's department of Harrods at £7.50 each, including a plant. Or they can be sent by mail, unposted, for £10.80 a pair (including postage and packing) from Rocke's Pottery, High Street, Ipswich, Suffolk-on-Trent.

Visitors are welcome at the workshop to see the other ranges - the village is about 10 miles from Stoke-on-Trent. (053 871 606).

■ As for the woolly-looking cacti, that is just what they are - the newest version of soft sculpture, knitted by Sue Pates and Clare Dindell. Everything is made of wool; including the plant, pots, the soil and the wired stems and flowers, which can be bent into any shape.

SHOPFRONT

Show here with a boy (left), effective with tradescantia, ivy or rhododendron, and the pot can be made in earthy colours, blue or red. It costs £15, unposted, and must be collected (no mail order) from Shirley Hardwick's pottery at Cedarwood, Stream Road, Upton near Didcot, Oxfordshire (0235 850233).

Its branches, it costs £23. The terracotta heads are available in the florist's department of Harrods at £7.50 each, including a plant. Or they can be sent by mail, unposted, for £10.80 a pair (including postage and packing) from Rocke's Pottery, High Street, Ipswich, Suffolk-on-Trent.

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■ The range, called Woolly Bloomers, includes alpine lilies, daffodils and tulips and a variety of cacti. Bowls of daffodils are apparently the most popular line, but the cacti are the most amusing - after all, some species do actually look as if they are covered in毛 (mohair). These are definitely jolly presents for jolly people; not for the literally minded. Those illustrated here include a single cactus with a fluffy top at £2.95, three-purple crocuses at £2.50 and a bowl of mother-in-law's tongue at £2.95. They are available by mail from Woolly Bloomers, 34 Memphis Close, Wembley, Middlesex (add £1.20 on each item for postage and packing). You can also find them at the Jubilee Market in Covent Garden, London WC1, on Saturdays and Sundays.

Beryl Downing

IN THE GARDEN

Birth pains of a labour of love

This week we begin The Times Garden Project. The idea behind it is to take an undeveloped garden in an inner-city area and build it up into an attractive practical one. We have chosen a modest-sized garden in Fulham.

There is no point pretending: starting a garden from scratch is hard work. There are no short cuts. If preparation is not done properly, and thoroughly, then success will be hard to come by. But there is much to do before the first sod is turned, and we shall begin with this less taxing form of preparation.

Neighbourhood spy

First, look around you. Peer over the garden fence and visit some local parks to get an idea of the soil type and what does well in your neighbourhood. This will not restrict you to the plants which are on show, but it

will give an idea about the groups of plants you will be choosing from. Local conditions are all important.

Aspect has a great bearing on any garden, and it is essential to plan to know the direction of the prevailing wind. Wind is more an enemy than a friend in any garden and strong winds must be taken into account.

How does the sun strike your garden? Does it have sunlight all day, or is it a "morning" or "afternoon" garden? Remember that the angle of the sun changes; the sun is much lower in the sky in winter than it is in summer. Consider any obstructions, be they buildings, plants' or bees, and try to trace the sun's path across the sky so that any plantings are catered for properly.

Paperwork

Now that the garden has been placed squarely in its environment, it is time to carry a piece of paper with you and make a

note of thoughts as they occur to you. You are going to need all the factors at your disposal so that detailed planning, once it starts, is well directed. Putting ideas on paper in some semblance of order is the first step towards crystallizing your thoughts and drawing up a finished plan. Even so, the finished plan must only be a guide and flexible enough to allow changes if something does not look right on the ground.

The Times garden is an oblong with a close-board fence on three sides and the house and patio on the fourth. It faces almost due south which means it will have good light or sun for most of the day. The terrace of houses which runs roughly east to west will protect the garden from the cold east and north winds and this means some tender plants can be considered.

Spade-work

Now that you have exercised your brain, it is time to put your hands to work: levelling the ground and tackling the weeds.

*Weeds abound and the few deep-rooted ones must be coped with now. Bindweed, for instance, must be eradicated before planting because if it gets into the roots of established plants it is almost impossible to get rid of. Closer to the house is what I consider to be the worst weed in the garden, *Oxalis corymbosa*. It resembles clover, but the resemblance ends there. It grows from a single carotoid root, and around this are numerous bulbils. Each of these bulbils once separated from the parent will make a new plant. Weeds have flowered and set seed so there is little we can do now to keep them from the soil.*

The first job is to level roughly the soil ready for

cultivation. If the levelling is minor it can be done by moving soil about to where it is needed. But if levelling is major, it is important to scrape off the top soil and move sub soil to areas where it is needed before replacing the top soil. Unless the soil is good for two or more spits down, it would be unacceptable to mix together the top soil and the sub soil.

Bindweed, for instance, is a rooter, and if it gets into the top soil it will be difficult to remove. It is best to remove the top soil and then plant the bindweed in a separate area.

Plant the bulbs in a small quantity of compost placed in the bottom of the bowl. Plant as many as you are able to fit in the bowl; it is alright to have them overlapping. Fill in around the bulbs, then water.

Thoroughly water the compost now the bulb and to make sure the bowl has a good reservoir of water before it is stored away to get ready for flowering.

For the next eight weeks at least, the bowl must be stored in the dark and in cool to cold conditions. Before forcing can take place, the bulbs must have a well-developed root system. The bowls can be plunged outside, dig them into peat or bark beds so that they are covered by at least 4in of compost. They can be placed in a garage or a shed, or even in a cool cupboard where they can develop a strong root system.

Check regularly over the next eight weeks and more to make sure the pots do not dry out. Those outside will need less such attention than bulbs stored in a cupboard indoors.

After a minimum of eight weeks, they can be brought out into light.

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Sunday 28 August 5.30 pm Robert Simpson plays Shostakovich Symphonies 6, 6 and 7.

City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Berlin.

Sunday 29 August 7.30 pm E. T. A. Hoffmann, Lynne Farleigh

Parcelf Room 2.30pm. Ticket prices: £1.50, £2.50, £3.50

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QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL

Sunday 28 August 2.30 pm Philip Jones Brass Ensemble

Performer: Brass Ensemble. Paul Patterson, Director. £1.50. Hand Concerto for Brass. Seats £1.50. Tel: 01-728 3191. Credit Cards 01-728 6544.

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English National Opera. Director: Hans-Joachim Syberberg. Conductor: Sir Peter Hall. Stage Director: Hans-Joachim Syberberg. Set Design: Hans-Joachim Syberberg. Costumes: Hans-Joachim Syberberg. Light: Hans-Joachim Syberberg. Performance ends at 10.30 pm. Then 11.45 pm. Tel: 01-728 3191. Credit Cards 01-728 6544. Tel: 01-728 3191. London American Music and Books, records, admissions, books etc.

Wednesday 31 August 7.30 pm - 8.30 pm. The Royal Festival Hall. £1.50. Tel: 01-728 3191. Credit Cards 01-728 6544. Tel: 01-728 3191. London American Music and Books, records, admissions, books etc.

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Groves Conducting Haydn

FOURTH PROM
Tonight, 7.30pm, Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, London SW7 (01-522 6212). In the first of three notable pianistic Proms this week Philip Fowke plays Ravel's *Boléro* and Weber's *Königskinder*. The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra under Norman del Mar then performs Hindemith's enthralling *Symphonic Metamorphosis* of Themes by Weber.

BRAMHUS-SCHOENBERG
Tonight, 7.30pm, Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-522 5181, credit card 228 6544). Schoenberg's illumination of Brahms's G minor Piano Quartet is played by the London Sinfonietta conducted by Simon Rattle. They also offer Haydn's Symphony No 67, and Alfred Brendel solos in Mozart's last piano concerto, K591.

THE PROUD ARE RISEN
Tonight, 8pm, Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford. Some singers called The Sixteen give forth with Tomkins's *Oh, God, the Proud are Risen*, Schütz's *Musikalische Exequien*, Byrd's *Laudes in Sanctis* and *Ad Dominum cum Tribulare*.

DESCRIPTION PASS
Tomorrow, 3pm, Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-522 5181, credit card 228 6544). The Philip Jones Brass Ensemble play Paul Patterson's *Description Pass*, Praetorius's *Terpsichorean Suite*, a Handel concerto and Saint-Saëns's *Carnival of the Animals*.

MORE BRAHMS
Tomorrow, 8pm, Usher Hall, Edinburgh (031-225 5756). Pinches Zukerman and Marc Neikrug are heard in an exciting programme of Brahms sonatas: the Violin Sonatas Opp 100 and 108, and the viola version of Op 120 No 2.

LAST SOUTH BANK
Tomorrow, 7pm, Festival Hall. In the last concert of the generally disappointing South Bank Summer Music series Simon Rattle directs the City of Birmingham Orchestra. In Sibelius's Symphonies Nos 5, 6 and 7, earlier, at 5.30pm in the Waterloo Room, Robert Simpson gives a talk on these works.

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Tonight, Southampton Gaumont; Mon and Tues, Poole Arts Centre; Thurs and Fri, Edinburgh Playhouse. . . and his Coconuts, whose well-publicized row with Coati Mundi, Creole's sidekick, may provide a perfect scenario for the entire tour.

ACTUAL FESTIVAL
Today and tomorrow, ICA Theatre, Nash House, The Mall, London SW1 (01-503 0433). At 3 pm today, the brilliant American soprano saxophonist Steve Lacy appears with Brian Gysin, William Burroughs's sometime accompanist, and various performance artists. Tonight at 8pm Keith Tippett leads a group made up of five trumpeters and two pianists, no doubt furthering his recent experiments. Tomorrow at 3pm, Fred Frith, the British guitarist, now domiciled in lower Manhattan, presents two of his groups, Duck & Cover and Skeleton Crew; at 8pm Lacy reappears as part of an appetizing trio with the pianist Mat Waldron and the saxophonist Steve Potts.

READING ROCK
Today and tomorrow, Thameside Arena, Reading, Berkshire. Today means heavy metal: Black Sabbath, Sustro, Magnum, Uriah and others, with the exception of Marillion, whose successful revival of the "progressive rock" of the early 1970s does not, thank goodness, appear to have set a trend. Tomorrow sounds like better fun: Little Steven and the Disciples of Soul may have dumped their horn section, but "Little" Miami Steve Van Zandt will be in charge of a dynamic band. Thin Lizzy promise their final British appearance; Ten Years After have



Groves Conducting Haydn

Lutoslawski is on the podium for his *Liure pour Orchestre and Cello Concerto* (Sofolot, Roman Jablonski).

PROUD 40
7.30pm, Albert Hall. For the fourth Prom in the current series of 57, Yuri Temirkanov conducts Beethoven's *Coriolanus Overture*, Prokofiev's *Symphony No 5*, played by the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and Yo Yo Ma solo in Dvorak's Cello Concerto.

SHURA CHERKASSKY
11am, Queen's Hall, Edinburgh. Making his first appearance at the Edinburgh Festival in many years, Cherkassky plays a typically wide-ranging programme: the Bach-Busoni Chaconne, Beethoven's Sonata Op 27 No 1, Book 2 of Brahms's *Paganini Variations*, Scriabin's Sonata No 4 and Berg's Sonata Op 1.

MAHLER AND SCHOENBERG
Thurs, 8pm, Usher Hall, Edinburgh. The strings of the Concertgebouw Orchestra are conducted by Bernard Haitink in Schoenberg's *Verklärte Nacht*, then the other sections, and Maria Ewing (soprano), join in for Mahler's long Symphony No 4.

FESTIVAL FIREWORKS
Thurs, 10pm, Ross Bandstand, Prince's Street Gardens, Edinburgh (031-225 5756). With a fireworks display from the Castle, the Scottish Chamber Orchestra under Gustav Kuhn plays Handel's *Music for the Royal Fireworks* and Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture.

BUSSONI'S MOUNTAIN
Fri, 7.30pm, Albert Hall. After Mussorgsky's *Night on the Bare Mountain*, Gyorgy Pauli solos in Prokofiev's Violin Concerto No 1 and Claude-Mathieu is the narrator in Stravinsky's rarely performed *Paraphrase*. David Atherton conducts the BBC Symphony Orchestra and Singers.

MARE NOSTRUM
Fri, 8pm, Institute of Contemporary Arts, The Mall, London SW1 (01-503 3647).

Mauricio Kagel's *Mare Nostrum*, first heard in Berlin in 1976, at last achieves its British première, thanks to the Musica! series. The production will be in English, but the production is based on that seen at the Honover Opera in 1981.

FANNY AND ANDERSON (15)
Coronet Notting Hill (227 6705) from Thurs

INGMAR BERGMAN's amazing evocation of life, joys and terrors, staged with exceptional opulence, beauty and lightness of touch. Traditional Bergman themes are deftly woven into the mixed fortunes of a Swedish family living early in the century.

MERRY CHRISTMAS MR LAWRENCE (15)
ABC Baywater (228 4148) ABC Fulham Road (370 2636) ABC Shaftesbury Avenue (836 8861) Cadogan Plaza (485 2443) Classic Haymarket (539 1527)

OSMOSIS' cool, penetrating vision of Sir Laurens van der Post's *The Seed and the Sower*, with David Bowie and Tom Conti as Poms in Java. Bowie's bizarre presence and Osmosis's quizzical response to British and Japanese culture combine to create a weird cinematic limbo, where the real action lies inside the characters. With Takeshi and Ryuichi Sakamoto, who is also composer.

reggae band, stand a fighting chance of carving the lot of them to ribbons. But why on a Tuesday?

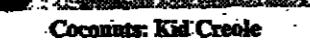
WELLINS/WELLER

Thurs, Seven Dials, 27 Shelton Street, London WC2.

On paper, the pairing of those idiosyncratic British tenor saxophonists Don Wellins and Bobby Wellins should be up there with Hobbs and Sutcliffe, Johnson and Boswell, Woodcock and Binks. For the Seven Dials Jazz Club, this represents typically imaginative programming.

VAN MORRISON

Fri, Hexagon Theatre, Reading. "Rave on, John Donne", Morrison sang during his last British visit, managing to make perfect sense of the anachronism. Even those who wince at the sight of yet another album-jacket credit to L. Ron Hubbard will find themselves spellbound by Morrison's current Celtic soul synthesis.



Concours: Kid Creole

reformed to showcase Alvin Lee's Woodstock-style pyrotechnics; Steve Harley will be leading a new Cockney Rebel; and the End promise light relief. Knockabout fun for all ages.

R&B JAMBOREE

Tomorrow, Electric Ballroom, Camden High Street, London NW1. A very promising night indeed, put together by Rock On Records and featuring four American R&B mini-legends of the early 1950s. Two are tenor saxophonists: Big Jay McNeely and Chuck Higgins. Two are pianists and singers: Young Jessie and Willie Egans.

PENWITH '83

Tues, Penwith, near St Ives, Cornwall. Despite the absence of surf music (which, given the location, one would have imagined to be a sine qua non), this shapes up as one of the outdoor events of the summer. Meaford tops the bill with his fascinating reduction of Springsteen, Spector and the Shangri-Las; 10cc follow up, with a lot to prove; Chuck Berry will roll through an unsurpassable repertoire with his customary sanguinity; and, as usual, the London

Howlett as the ambiguous Caribbean folk hero who started the historic slave uprising.

WELSH NATIONAL OPERA

WNO start their Cardiff season on Fri with a new production by John Copley of Peter Grimes, with Richard Armstrong conducting a cast which includes John

Matthews and the title role and Josephine Barstow as Ellen Orford. The company is operating a new subscription package for Wales and for Birmingham and Bristol; write for details of money-saving offers to Welsh National Opera, John Street, Cardiff (0222 40541).

Dance

NEW YORK CITY BALLET
Coveted Garden (240 1055), until Sept 3. Mon-Sat at 7.30pm, matinées Wed and Sat at 2pm. So varied a repertory, there is no way of meeting the frequent requests to pick a "best" programme. *Balanchine* in his classic manner is perhaps best represented by *Divertimento No 15*, *Symphony in C* and *Tchaikovsky Piano Concerto*. For his romantic style look to *Mozartiana* and Robert Schumann's *David und Goliath*, while *Agon* represents his innovative neoclassical work. There then are five works by Jerome Robbins, including *The Gershwin Concerto* and a single showing of his *Chopin*. Other Dances, besides one ballet episode from Peter Martins and John Tera, a different selection at every performance. The only sensible recommendation is to go as often as you can afford.

BALLET RAMBERT
Edinburgh, King's (Festival Box Office 031-225 5756), Mon to Sept 3 at 7.30pm matinées Tues and Sat at 2.30pm.

Two prettily dressed in the week's programmes are both inspired by partners. A play and inspired by *Kotakosha* were the starting point of Glen Tetley's *Murder, Hope or*

Name.....

Address.....

PREVIEW Films

Big shots to reclaim the Twilight Zone



Enough to make you peck? Jeremy Irons and Kathleen Quinlan

Aging science-fiction freaks, late-night television addicts, and devotees everywhere of the American bizarre will be pleased to discover that they are not alone in their predilections.

Some of cinema's bright young things, led by Steven Spielberg and John Landis, have aired their love of one of the best known early television sci-fi series, in a new film version, *The Twilight Zone - The Movie*. The original *Twilight Zone*, the creation of Rod Serling the playwright, was first delivered to a puzzled world in 1959 on CBS, attracting abysmal ratings for its weekly twist-in-the-tale chiropticons.

"The Zone" survived several network attempts to scrap it and ran for five years, gathering as it went a hardcore of fans. Even today, they may be found arguing over whether the series had the advantage of *Outer Limits*, its sci-fi network rival, a debate given a neat passing reference in the prologue to the new film.

By today's standards it was pretty weak stuff, but the programme was seminal. Spielberg watched it and ended up making *Close Encounters* and *E.T.* Landis watched it and turned out *An American Werewolf in London*. Between the two of

them they have probably made more money than the total budget for five years of the television series - and certainly more than Serling (who died in 1975) ever received. But one of the privileges of being rich is that it enables you to indulge your fantasies.

The format might have come from the series. A lively prologue leads into four sepa-

Critics' choice

DIAL M FOR MURDER (PG) ICA Cinema, The Mall (030 3647) until Sept 7 (closed Mon).

OCTOPUSSY (15) Classic Cinema (552 5096) Empire Leicester Square (437 1234) Odeon Kensington (602 6544) Odeon Marble Arch (723 2011/2)

The Bond films have proved their point by selling a billion tickets. Although it is hard nowadays to stay ahead of real-life technology Bond's flying jeep, fountain-pen lasers, and other toys are still the products of strip-cartoon magic. In the latest episode the secret remains the same, as does the casting of Bond (a now more kindly dashing Roger Moore), Miss Moneypenny (Lois Maxwell) and old Q (Desmond Llewelyn). John Glen Directs.

ONE FROM THE HEART (15) Lumiere, St Martin's Lane (036 0691) until Wed.

Francis Coppola's studio-bound musical fantasy offers scanty human feelings and abundant technological fireworks. Lovers and drifters shift positions one holiday weekend in Las Vegas; the heart is unmoved, but the eye is beguiled.

THE OUTSIDERS (PG) ABC Fulham Road (723 5801) ABC Fulham Road (370 2636) ABC Shaftesbury Avenue (836 8861) Cadogan Plaza (485 2443) Classic Haymarket (539 1527)

OSMOSIS' cool, penetrating vision of Sir Laurens van der Post's *The Seed and the Sower*, with David Bowie and Tom Conti as Poms in Java. Bowie's bizarre presence and Osmosis's quizzical response to British and Japanese culture combine to create a weird cinematic limbo, where the real action lies inside the characters. With Takeshi and Ryuichi Sakamoto, who is also composer.

of the seductive music. A season of

WEEKEND FIXTURES

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated

First division

Arsenal v Luton

Aston Villa v West Brom

Everton v Stoke

Ipswich v Tottenham

Leicester v North County

Manchester U v CP Rangers

Nottingham Forest v Southampton

Sunderland v Norwich

Watford v Coventry

West Ham U v Birmingham

Wolverhampton W v Liverpool

Second division

Barnsley v Fulham

Blackburn v Huddersfield

Carlisle v Cambridge U

Charlton v Cardiff

Chelsea v Derby

C Palace v Manchester C

Grimsby v Shrewsbury

Leeds v Newcastle

Oldham v Brighton

Portsmouth v Middlesbrough

Swansea v Sheffield W

Third division

Bolton v Wimbledon

Bournemouth v Preston

Brentford v Millwall

Exeter v Walsall

Hull City v Bury

Newport v Bristol R (1.5)

Oxford v Bradford C

Oxford U v Lincoln

Plymouth v Wigan

Port Vale v Scunthorpe

Sheffield U v Gillingham

Southend v Fleetwood

Fourth division

Aldershot v Hereford

Blackpool v Reading

Bristol C v Mansfield

Chester v Northampton

Chesterfield v Swindon

Darlington v Colchester

Doncaster v Wrexham

Halifax v Torquay

Peterborough v Hartlepool

Rochdale v Crewe

Stockport v York

Tranmere v Bury (0.5)

Scottish second division

Stranraer v Stenhousemuir

Aberdeen v Alloa Rovers

Scottish League Cup

Second round, second leg

Alders v Falkirk

Berwick v Motherwell

Celtic v Brechin

Clydebank v Airdrie

Dumbarton v Hibernian

Dundee v Morsbys

Dundee United v Dundee U

Forfar v St Mirren

Hearts v Cowdenbeath

Kilmarnock v Queens Park

Motherwell v Hamilton

Partick T. v Meadowbank

Queens of South v Rangers

Raith Rovers v Aberdeen

St Johnstone v East Fife

FOOTBALL: COMBINATION: Luton v Cheltenham

Kilnwick v Swindon (2.0)

Leyton Orient v Walsall

Macclesfield v Wrexham

Macclesfield v Cheltenham

Macclesfield v Wrexham

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STOCK EXCHANGES
FT Index: 722.1 up 4.7
FT Gilt: 79.60 down 0.11
FT All Share: 457.31 down 0.83
Bargains: 18,578
Datstream USM Leaders Index: 100.58 up 0.58
New York: Dow Jones Average (latest): 1188.41 up 2.35

Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index: 9145.54 down 2.47
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index: 981.80 down 0.11

Amsterdam: 147 up 0.4
Sydney: AO Index: 696.7 down 0.8

Frankfurt: Commerzbank Index: 927.50 down 5.80
Brussels: General Index: 133.44 down 0.01

Paris: CAC Index: 136.7 down 1.0
Zurich: SKA General Index: 284 down 1.2

CURRENCIES
LONDON CLOSE
Sterling \$1.5015 down 65pts
Index 84.8 up 0.1
DM 4.0070
Fr 12.0500
Yen 369.50
Dollar
Index 128.8 up 1.2
DM 2.6630

NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling \$1.5035
INTERNATIONAL
ECU 569.122
SDR 698.060

INTEREST RATES
Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 9½
Finance houses base rate 10
Discount market loans week fixed 9¾
3 month interbank 9-9 5/13

Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 10¾ 10¾
3 month DM 5½ 5½
3 month Fr 15½ 15

US rates:
Bank prime rate 11.00
Fed funds 9¾
Treasury long bond 103¾
103¾

ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV
Average reference rate for interest period July 6 to August 2, 1983 inclusive: 9.989 per cent.

GOLD
London fixed (per ounce):
am \$419.25 pm \$417.00
close \$417.75
New York latest: \$417.00
Krugerrand* (per coin): \$430.50-432.00 (\$287-288)
Sovereigns* (new): \$98.25-99.25 (\$65.50-66.25)
*Excludes VAT

NOTEBOOK

L. M. Ericsson, the Swedish electronics group, reported that net earnings per share rose by a quarter in the first half-year to Skr10.8. Pretax profits reached Skr758m (S64m) compared with Skr675m. The company normally does better in the second half and should be helped by the devaluation of the Krona and improving North American sales.

Wagon Finance, the Sheffield hire purchase house, raised interim pretax profits from £257,000 to £457,000. But the company does not expect this rate of increase in the second half. The market was disappointed and marked the shares down 9p to 45p.

Page 12

Bermuda stake for Fraser

House of Fraser is paying £50,000 for a 2.77 per cent stake in Hopewell International, the off-shore reinsurance company in Bermuda. Hopewell has taken part of the store's group risk on its £1bn insurance portfolio for nearly three years.

A Volvo of Sweden has sold 98 purpose-built police cars to Saudi Arabia in its largest foreign order for the model. The order is thought to be worth about 20m to 35m kroner (£1.7-2.2m).

Middle East Airlines' 1982 annual report shows a net loss of \$40m (£27m) because of the lighting in Lebanon and particularly the closure of Beirut international airport for 115 days.

South Africa's trade surplus more than doubled to R596.1m (£352m) last month from R242.8m. July's exports rose to R1.72bn from R1.69m in June, while imports fell to R1.12bn from R1.45bn.

ICI Australia is to make a one-for-three rights issue of 51.00 shares at \$1.60 each to shareholders. The issue of 61.67 million shares will raise \$98.7m (£58m).

BSC could be main beneficiary of second phase

British companies poised to win £1bn North Sea oil contracts

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

British industry is poised to win more than £1bn worth of business from a revitalised North Sea oil industry.

Contracts worth more than £2bn are about to be placed as the North Sea industry enters the second phase of its development. British Steel, which this week reopened its Hartlepool pipeworks to meet a North Sea order from Shell, could be the main beneficiary.

The rig and platform-building industry, which has been starved of orders for five years and has laid-off several hundred skilled workers, will be invited to tender for three big contracts.

The contracts are for the second phase of the Marathon

offshore industry's order-book contract.

The southern North Sea gas-fields are also entering a new phase of development, with orders for pipe-line equipment and production-platform supplies about to be placed.

The World Petroleum Companies, which open in London tomorrow, will underline the importance of North Sea technology to the world oil business. With Britain moving into deep-water exploration, new techniques are being sold to foreign oil industries, bringing in substantial foreign earnings.

Oil officials from China, which has already awarded the first three offshore exploration

contracts to companies with substantial British involvement.

The southern North Sea gas-fields will be among the 3,000 world energy delegates from 80 countries attending the Congress.

This is the first time that the Congress has been held in Britain since the inaugural meeting in 1933. It will be officially opened by the Prince of Wales at the Albert Hall, before it moves to the Barbican for the week's working sessions.

The Prince will be presented with the honorary fellowship of the Institute of Petroleum by its president, Mr Alan Gregor, chairman of BP Oil.

The Chinese oil minister will take part in discussions later in the week and the Russian

minister of Energy will also take part in technical discussions. Papers will be presented by 135 oil industry experts, and 53 technical sessions will discuss how the oil industry can help the world economy in the coming years.

One session will attempt to answer the question: "Just how much oil is there really left?"

The president of the Congress, Dr W von Iseleman, of West Germany, said yesterday:

"The proceedings will produce a comprehensive picture of the ways in which petroleum technology can assist in shaping industry as we move into the 21st century."

City Editor's Comment

Pass go and collect your bid profits

than the current value of its share offer.

Mr Maxwell's side, nonetheless, cannot buy these shares because it would have to offer cash to all equal to the highest cash price paid and has already declared its cash bid as final. Mr Maxwell is friends are likewise not allowed to buy in the market and then accept his share offer.

Somebody somewhere must therefore have full confidence in Waddington's management and the rapid turnaround in profits on which its defence was based. It is a brave man who will write off the determined Mr Maxwell, but small shareholders who do not want to stick with Waddington should probably also sell at today's prices.

The immediate lesson is that some takeover bidders are becoming too clever for their own good. The tactic of declaring your takeover bid "final" is a good way to frighten shareholders into accepting, but can come unstuck when the stock market is booming, as Mr Gerald Ronson discovered in his quest for UDS.

More generally, it is clear that shareholders should be wary of takeovers of companies just at the point of cyclical recovery in profits.

Here, the bitter lesson came from London Brick, whose offer for Ibstock Johnsons was delayed but finally allowed by a Monopolies Commission investigation.

In the meantime, Ibstock had recovered so fast that it was not worthwhile for London Brick to buy at the higher price now necessary.

Meanwhile, shareholders, large and not so large, are being bombarded by both sides by telephone, meeting and any other known form of communication.

To complicate matters further for the ordinary shareholder, the institutions withdrawing from BPCC's offer are not necessarily declaring their confidence in Waddington.

A drop of \$300m in M1 would put the narrow money measure within the Federal Reserve's new target range for the first time. The Fed's long-run M1 growth target is 5 to 9 per cent for the rest of the year.

Dealers said the dollar was

also helped by remarks from the West German Chancellor, Herr Helmut Kohl, that United States interest rates and the dollar would stay high until next year's United States presidential elections.

Pound slips further against dollar

By Peter Wilson-Smith

Sterling recovered ground against continental currencies yesterday but was slightly down against a strong United States dollar.

After its bout of weakness because of poor July trade figures, the pound climbed back against the Deutsche Mark through DM4, although dealers said that covering of short positions accounted for part of the rise.

Sterling closed up just over 3 pence at DM4.0070 and against the French franc at FrF12.05. Its trade-weighted value was up 0.1 at 84.8.

However, against the dollar, sterling slipped 65 points to \$1.5015 having fallen below \$1.50 earlier in the day. The dollar's strength reflected the usual end-of-week jitters over yesterday's US money supply figures.

Although another fall in M1 had been widely expected during the week, the Federal Reserve's action on Thursday to tighten liquidity led to fears that the money supply could be worse than previously expected.

At one stage the dollar moved above DM2.67, but it closed at DM2.6630, and nearly 10 cents firmer against the French currency at FrF8.0125.

Dealers said the dollar was

also helped by remarks from the West German Chancellor, Herr Helmut Kohl, that United States interest rates and the dollar would stay high until next year's United States presidential elections.

Meanwhile, Waddington

claimed to have the support of

more than half of its shareholders against Mr Maxwell.

Waddington said that it had

been notified of withdrawals

totalling 6.8 per cent of its

shares from shareholders who

had previously accepted BPCC's

share capital.

However, BPCC announced

yesterday that it is extending its

takeover offer for Waddington

until September 7. The offer

was due to close today.

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Meanwhile, Waddington

Ericsson restores confidence

There has been some nervous American selling of Ericsson shares recently, in the main because the price has fallen about \$10 from the \$62.50 at which the successful New York issue was made in May. But the half-year figures from one of the world's leading electronic engineering companies should restore confidence.

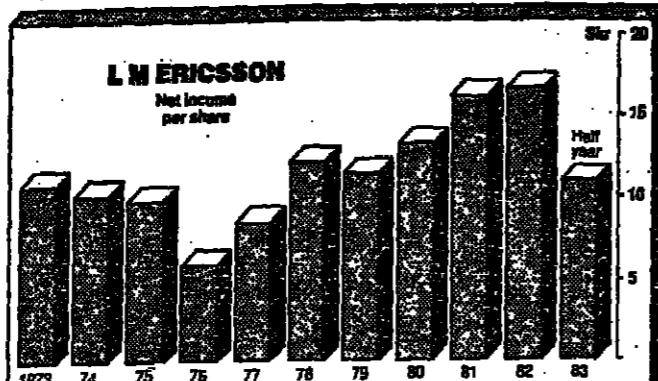
The figures are confused by a change in accounting practice designed to lessen the impact above the line of currency losses caused by rapid inflation in countries such as Mexico. But net earnings per share are about a quarter up at Skr10.8, and profit before appropriations and tax was Skr176m (£64m) compared with Skr676m (£64m). The full 1982 income was Skr10.07m.

The important point, however, is that parent company income was 40 per cent higher, if the losses incurred by the overseas associates are excluded. The company stresses that this was achieved without much benefit from the 13 per cent devaluation of the Swedish krona at the beginning of the year because currency transactions were hedged forward. Devaluation gains should begin to show through in the current half.

The underlying strength of the business is reflected in the facts that both new orders and turnover rose by 28 per cent. Sales in the first half were Skr11,075m. For the moment sales are still concentrated in the traditional areas, particularly, of course, the telephone exchanges, and the company stands to gain from the American recovery.

Second half results should be helped by Anaconda-Ericsson, the American cablemaker, and there may be some improvement in Mexico. But Ericsson is now firmly embarked on a longer term strategy which will decide the future of the group. Much will hang on its ability to break into the North American market, a venture in which Ericsson has enjoyed some success already, and it also has ambitions in the highly competitive and diffuse products market.

The irony is that just as the company has embarked on this expansion Swedish investors appear to have lost interest. Ericsson has long commanded a big following in London, but in recent years it has concentrated



on its American investor relations. The interesting aspect of recent New York selling is that few shares have been made their way back to Europe.

Moss have quietly been picked up by other Americans. With net profits of Skr1.85m in sight for 1983, they could be right.

Greenwich Cable

Greenwich Cable Communications Half-year to 28.2.83. Pre-tax profit £161,000 (£46,000). Stated loss £6.84p (1.97p). Turnover £115,000 (£91,000). Net interim dividend nil. Share price 40p, down 6p.

Greenwich Cable Communications' loss looks bad but it was not unexpected and it appears to be in line with the other cable operators, most of which do not publish results.

But Greenwich is not achieving the market penetration it had hoped. Only about 800 people have signed for its subscription film service, against an expected 3,000, although the 6,800 users of the communal aerial service provide useful revenue.

The two main problems are the terms of the original pilot licence - which allowed only one channel - and the difficulty of getting enough good quality films. It is true that Greenwich expected to make losses for the first three years, but it is too small to sustain the current rate at which it is losing cash.

Better days may be just round the corner now that liberalisation of the law allows more channels and satellite broadcasts. But that could be too late for Greenwich. In terms of losses and cash needs, the company probably has a limited

life in its present form and a capital reconstruction may not be far away.

Mr Jarvis Astaire has just joined the board after buying the balance of the unissued shares which are traded on the Unlisted Securities Market. Mr Astaire has good connections - not least of which is Mr Gerald Ronson, of Heron - and a bid is possible.

The attraction to a predator is that Greenwich's cables are already laid and pass 20,000 homes. This means the cost of connecting subscribers is only about £25 against £300 for operators in new areas.

Superficially, the results look awful, but for those prepared to take a view, Greenwich could prove an interesting proposition.

Geevor

It would be an exaggeration to say that there is a battle for control of Geevor, the sole independent Cornish tin mine, but there is definitely competition.

Rio Tinto-Zinc picked up another 50,000 shares yesterday, bringing its total holding to 19.5 per cent, a whisker more than Gencor, its arch-rival, for so long the main shareholder.

Since RTZ took over Wheal Jane and almost convinced South Crofty opinion in Cornwall has been convinced that a play for Geevor was likely.

The obstacles were the tin price, the need to overcome local suspicions and convince Whitehall that the industry would benefit, and the sizeable blocks of Geevor in other hands.

The price appears much less of a problem now, and the success of Wheal Jane has gone some way to assuaging fears about the interloper.

But other bodies - among them Cluff Oil, Saville & Prosser, and M&G - still need to be convinced that RTZ is good for Geevor.

Since Gencor has seemingly lost the will to develop the mine, RTZ is the only alternative. With almost a fifth of the equity in its hands RTZ can strike a deal with other shareholders.

At 128p, well below the peak for 1982/3, the shares look sensitive to any such arrangement.

Wagon Finance

Half-year to 30.6.83. Pre-tax profit £457,000 (£257,000). Stated earnings 0.78p (0.4p). Turnover £10.5m (£8.3m). Net interim dividend 0.625p. Share price 45p Yield 7.3%.

Disappointment at Wagon Finance's first half performance was amply reflected in the share price falling 9p to 45p. It is clear that the assumptions made about the impact on the company's fortunes of the consumer boom and the relaxation of credit controls were rather optimistic.

Not that the profits are bad. The £457,000 pre-tax made in the first half of this year was three-quarters up on the comparable period, and when allowance is made for the inclusion in the last year's figures of overprovisions, profits are running above trend.

But the company warns that after increasing new business by 17 per cent, the second half is unlikely to be as good. Against a slowdown in consumer spending, however, should be placed the profits accruing from business already written. Nevertheless, the possibility that interest rates will creep up again is depressing for hire purchase companies, and it is difficult to see that Wagon will return quickly to the profitability of the late 1970s.

Ward Holdings Half-year to 30.4.83. Pre-tax profit £950,000 (£302,000). Turnover £7.6m (£5.3m). Net interim dividend 1.19p (same). Share price 75p up 2p. Yield 5%.

Investment Trust of Guernsey Half-year to 30.5.83. Net revenue after tax £305,000. Net asset value 136p (115p). Interim dividend 2.1p gross (same).

As if the obstinate refusal of the gold price to be "talked up" were not of sufficient concern, investors now find themselves caught up in the crossfire of billion dollar dealing. In the last couple of weeks, Customs and Excise officials have been buzzing round City of London financial institutions trying to piece together a jigsaw of smuggling and tax evasion.

Mr Walter Shaw, whose company, Shaw Cavendish, is, he claims, the biggest gold coin dealer in Britain.

The company's telephones in Chester have not stopped ringing with inquiries from distressed investors, he says, since he took the step of letting it be known that, for him at least, it was business as usual.

Shaw Cavendish is trading normally in buying and selling gold coins. It remains to be seen whether it might eventually face liquidity problems, but its buy-back policy is in sharp contrast to that of the big London bullion houses.

Sharp's Pixley is operating what it calls a "switch facility". This means it is still selling krugerrands but buy-back deals are now suspended.

At Johnson Matthey, all gold coin dealings with the public are suspended.

So if you have a few krugerrands stashed away - and one recent estimate is that more than four million people in this country do - how could you now realize your investment?

The International Gold Cor-

Gold

Where to sell Krugerrands now

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The message for krugerrand

holders is that unless you

desperately need cash now, hold

on to you have and you can't



Krugerrands. Some bullion houses have suspended dealings.

The gold price is almost certain to rise in the next few months.

Peter Gardland

Small business

Painless way to raise capital

Small businesses looking for capital to expand and investors seeking a tax shelter for their income are getting together to take advantage of the opportunities offered under the Government's new Business Expansion Scheme.

The small company can get painless equity finance for either start-up or expansion, and investors can benefit from tax relief at the highest rate paid on up to £40,000 worth of investment a year (for this and the next three tax years).

Most of this business has until now been handled by special venture capital funds which have got Inland Revenue approval under the scheme. But more and more people are going it alone - raising equity finance from friends and relatives.

Since the tax relief is crucial, obtaining Inland Revenue approval is the first priority for any person wanting to go it alone.

Nothing to do with financial legislation is ever simple but one good basic guide to what one can do with the BES has been written in a question-and-answer booklet by Mavis Seymour, a tax manager with Stoy Hayward, the accountants, and is available free from the firm.

A qualifying company must be unquoted. If it is traded in the "over the counter" market that is all right, but an Unlisted Securities Market quotation is not. It must trade primarily in Britain. Some businesses, such as investment, financial, accountancy and legal services, will not qualify. The company must be independent with a fully paid-up share capital.

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If the company is a qualifying one, you should try to get in touch with the relevant technical department at Somerset House. One problem with the BES is that there is no centralised official clearance procedure.

Potential investors will, it is wise, require firm evidence that the company is a qualifying one before putting up money. Anyone thinking of buying shares should, in any case, consult, say, an accountant or a bank manager before parting with cash.

And this is very much a medium-term investment as

clients have come to grief, the inspector may be rather less helpful.

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not one where the D of T & I is going to look too hard. For instance, if you were to place a small ad seeking cash for a new business, you are probably not breaking the law. But if you were to offer equity in the advertisements, you might be in trouble.

Personal contacts are probably the first possibility in looking for money. So much for the old saying that you should never do business with friends.

But intermediaries, such as accountants, insurance brokers and pension consultants, can also find substantial interest from clients. As Mavis Seymour puts it, "people are warming to the idea of putting up risk capital". Accountants report a growing two-way trade - some clients looking for cash, others looking for investments.

Mr Geoffrey Polton, of the insurance brokers, Pointon York, says: "Directors of small private companies are particularly keen on this kind of investment. It's a wonderful deal for them. They can control what sort of salaries they pay themselves, so the BES offers particularly good tax-planning possibilities for them."

And I am getting five companies seeking cash coming to my

● Krugerrands

Letter

True costs of Public Trustee

From The Public Trustee
Sir, In the "Family Money" section of "August" 20, you compare the annual administrative charges of the banks, the Public Trustee, and Messrs Dearden Farrow.

I cannot comment on the fees of the banks, but the fees you quote for my office are considerably overstated. The correct figures are:

Fee	£
50,000	1,250
100,000	2,500
250,000	4,750
500,000	9,500

It may be that Messrs Dearden Farrow have included in these calculations items other than our annual administration charge as an ongoing trust.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN BOLAND
Public Trustee,
The Public Trustee,
Stewart House,
Kingsway,
London WC2.

Your bank statement on demand

Account holders with Royal Bank of Scotland and its English subsidiary, Williams & Glyn's, will soon be able to get a "mini bank" statement at the press of a button.

The statements, giving up to the last six entries and the balance on customers' accounts will be available from any of the group's 440 cash-dispenser machines. The service already available in Scotland, is now being extended nationwide.

Some of the other banks already provide customers with a balance inquiries service but, this is the first time bank customers will be able to obtain information on recent transactions.

As part of the new package, Royal Bank and Williams & Glyn's will also allow customers to order a new cheque book and draw cash on their Access cards from the Cashline machines, although some other banks already offer these services.

Amex cheques for visitors to the Gulf

Frequent visitors to the Gulf will be pleased to know that travellers' cheques in Saudi rials are now available from American Express offices in Britain.

Issued by the Saudi Travellers Cheque Company, a joint venture between eight Saudi banks and American Express, the cheques will be available in denominations of SR50, SR500 and SR1,000.

HFC Trust is to make Thomas Cook sterling travellers' cheques available in its 155 branches and is also to introduce a range of eight currencies.

Minimum sale of travellers' cheques will be £50 and the commission charge is the standard 1 per cent with a minimum charge of £1 per transaction.

Still more interest.

CHELTONHAM GOLD
8.25% 11.79%
net 11.79% gross.

Still no strings.

The Cheltenham & Gloucester is still the only major national building society to offer a full 1% extra interest with no strings at all.

Invest £1000 or more in a Cheltenham Gold Account and we'll give you 1% extra interest paid annually plus 100% freedom to withdraw money immediately without any advance notice or loss of interest. Fall below £1000 and you still earn 7.25% net* 10.36% gross*.

CHELTENHAM GOLD MONTHLY INTEREST.

Invest £5000 or more in a Cheltenham Gold Monthly Interest Account and we'll pay you extra interest monthly direct to your bank. Better still, add the interest to your account each month and you'll earn the annual equivalent of

8.57% net* 12.24% gross*.

At your branch. Or by post. Free.

You'll find your local branch in Yellow Pages. If there's no branch handy, use the coupon to open either of the Cheltenham Gold Accounts by Post. You can pay in or withdraw as you like. We pay the first class postage.

Whichever way you choose, it's your first step to total freedom.

To: C&G Building Society, PO Box 124 FREEPOST, Cheltenham, Glos, GL53 7PW.
I enclose _____ to open a Gold by Post Account (Minimum £100, Maximum £30,000, Joint Account £50,000).
I enclose _____ to open a Gold Monthly Interest Account by Post (Minimum £5000).
Maximum £30,000, Joint Account £50,000. Please send more details.
Full name (S/Mr/Mrs/Miss)
Address _____
Postcode _____ Date _____

C&G Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society

Chief Office: Cheltenham House, Clarence Street, Cheltenham, Glos, GL50 3JR. Tel: 0242 361611
Member of the Building Societies Association. Over 450 Branches and Agents. Assets exceed £1432 million.
Current rates. The rate of interest paid on the Cheltenham Gold Monthly Interest Account may vary from that paid on the Cheltenham Gold Account. Gross equivalent for basic rate tax payers.

FAMILY MONEY edited by Lorna Bourke

Marathon sponsor

Nationwide Building Society is sponsoring the London Marathon and will be making cash awards to the first three athletic club teams, both men and women, who complete the course. It will also be handing all entry forms, which will be obtainable from any of Nationwide's 315 main branches or any of 800 sub-branches. Forms will be available from Monday, September 11, and Friday, September 30. Entrants will have to pay a £1 non-refundable donation to the marathon organisers which will go towards the provision of recreational facilities in London, but does not guarantee a place in the race.

Expatriates help

Going to live or work abroad causes a number of problems, many of them associated with tax. The Inland Revenue has just updated *Residents and Non-Residents: Liability to Tax in the United Kingdom*. (PricewaterhouseCoopers, £12) to guide you to what you can and cannot do if you want to make sure you pay as little tax as possible in Britain. It is available free from local tax offices and from PAYE inquiry offices.

Aid for newcomers

Binder Hamlyn, the City accountancy firm, has published a simple guide on income and capital taxation, designed for

the expatriates/managers of new businesses.

There is likely to be a big demand for the publication as more and more companies are established.

Accountants are an excellent source for free advice on taxation problems and most of the large firms have a variety of booklets available free to people who write to them.

College cover

An insurance policy for students which gives cover at reduced rates for young people who want to insure their belongings during term time is available from the Oxford-based broker E. Harrison.

For £9.50 a year a student can obtain cover up to £100 for theft, fire or loss on the premises of the college. A normal policy providing year-round cover, at any place of residence in Britain and up to 60 days on the Continent costs £17 a year.

Student accounts

Discount vouchers producing savings of up to £120 are one of the features of the TSB's new Young Adults package. It also includes free banking for school leavers for three years for those aged between 15 and 18. The account has to be kept in credit (not overdrawn) to qualify. TSB is also giving an automatic overdraft guarantee facility once the first regular wage or salary cheque has been paid.

into the account. There is also a Speedbank card for cash withdrawal.

Students are offered free banking while they are in full time study and for one year after graduation, provided, says TSB, rates are "generally reasonable". Students will also get automatic cheque guarantee cards once the first grant cheque has been paid in. A loan of up to £2000 is available "at the manager's discretion" for those who have completed at least three years' further full time education. Full details from local TSB branches.

Smoke cover

Householders who have an insurance claim are often surprised to discover that damage caused by smoke is not included in their cover.

Provincial Insurance has been updating its Homecover contents policy and among the improvements it has eliminated the exclusion for smoke damage.

Other features include an increase in the amount of rent and hotel expenses if your home becomes uninhabitable, and an uprating of the cover for personal money to £250 with £500 for misuse of credit cards or cheques cards.

On the minus side, policyholders who have their bicycle stolen as a result of not locking it will no longer be covered and if it is then simply removes headlocks or wheel (even if it is padlocked) Provincial will not pay.



Penny fund

Fortunes have been made and lost in penny shares, according to Mr Freddy Lawson, above, who this week launched his penny share fund. Poseidon, Poly Peck and London and Liverpool were all penny shares but Mr Lawson gives a warning that this is a highly speculative unit trust and recommends that investors commit only a small proportion of their wealth to it.

"We will be investing in shares like

Edenspring, Scott & Robertson and Fulcrum Capital", says Mr Lawson who has a list of 50 or more potential investments.

Arbuthnot, which launched similar fund in April, has taken in £13m and the price has moved up by 5 per cent since launch.

Abbey looks abroad

"Abbey Life's managed fund, one of the biggest in the market at over £24m, is broadening its portfolio by including overseas companies in its portfolio.

Abbey is also looking to invest in the United States, Canada, Australia and Japan. The Managed fund has already started making overseas investments through the Abbey American Growth Fund and Abbey Japan Fund.

Lloyds' best bet

Lloyds Bank is recommending its Worldwide Growth Unit Trust as the best bet for would-be investors. The trust has over 50 per cent of its assets overseas and is up 20 per cent.

Investors who prefer total security might opt for TSB's new five-year Income Bond. The return of 8 per cent net of basic rate tax is not so attractive but it will not cause you any sleepless nights.

Minimum investment in the Sentry bond is £1,500 and in the TSB bond, £1,000.

Business hints

Self employment is an increasingly popular way of avoiding the dole queue but too many small businesses fail within the first year. Help is at hand from the *Self Employment Practice Book*, published by Cambridge based Great Orme Press. It covers all the questions asked by people running their own business including setting up, borrowing money, accountancy and solicitors, government help, tax and national insurance as well as VAT, book-keeping and accounts. It is written by a Cambridge accountant, Nigel Prentis.

Mortgages

Tax traps to net house buyers

Nearly everyone knows that the owner-occupied house is one of the sacred cows of the British tax system. It is, however, hedged in by one of the thickest jungles with vicious tax traps designed to catch the lucky and successful, as well as the unwary.

The traps range from stamp duty, which is unavoidable, to capital gains tax, levied on a second home (and even a first if it has been used for letting or business) to development land tax, if you have sufficient land and someone else re-zones the area for planning permission purposes.

There is tax exemption if the sale proceeds are below £25,000 and lower rates up to £40,000 when the rate becomes 2 per cent.

The important thing to bear in mind is that the rate does not apply in tranches but to the whole of the sale price. For example, on a house valued at £41,500, divide it into £39,000 for the price of the house and £2,500 for the fixtures and fittings and half per cent is saved on £40,000 and 2 per cent on £1,500.

There is a complicated avoidance technique, not commonly used, but its efficacy is untested.

One is the balmy days when all interest paid by individuals was deductible for tax purposes and now it is limited according to the purpose for which the loan is raised.

One of those purposes is the purchase, improvement or development (for example, extensions) of property where that property is, at the time the interest is paid, used as the only or main residence of the borrower, a dependent relative (widowed mothers are always dependent, for some reason) or a separated or former spouse.

One other point to observe is that the money must be applied for the purchase improvement or development of the property immediately after having been drawn down from the lender. There is, however, concession-

ary treatment if the loan is drawn down and placed on deposit temporarily. But the general rule disallows interest for second mortgages.

Bridging loans also attract relief for a period of one year. This period can be extended at the discretion of the Inland Revenue, although they have not indicated when this discretion would be used.

In principle, however, the bridging loan provisions do allow for total mortgages of £60,000 to be outstanding, with a maximum of £30,000 each, for a period of 12 months, provided the taxpayer owns two properties and the mortgage is split between them.

Similarly, on marriage, double deduction will be allowed to continue for a 12 month period by concession. This is an area which is littered with extra-statutory material (see *Irland Revenue Practice and Concessions*, Ovez Longman Publishing Ltd).

Meanwhile, it is worth remembering that no basic rate tax deduction can be made under Mortgage Interest Relief At Source (Miras) where the loan in question exceeds £30,000. Interim relief can therefore only be obtained by ensuring that the coding notice is suitably amended at the earliest opportunity.

The lenders will normally issue the necessary paper to arrange this, but will not chase the borrower who does not deal with it. Like Caesar, the Inland Revenue administrative machine needs a regular supply of but coloured forms rendered to it to keep working.

In any event, even if the interest payments qualify for the Miras treatment, it is still necessary for the higher-rate taxpayer with income over £14,600, after interest deductions, to obtain relief from higher rates of tax on mortgage interest through the coding notice where Schedule E (employed taxpayers) applies.

David Tallon

Building societies

Balancing the borrowers' scales



For sale: houses galore, but cheap mortgages will be harder to come by

offers a monthly income facility rate of 7.25 per cent is available for investments of £1,000 or more.

The differential of 1.75 per cent over the ordinary share rate is not fixed.

Monthly Mortgage Repayments Over 25 Years

Loan	11.25	11.5	11.75	12.0	12.25	12.5	12.75	13.0
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
15,000	115.10	117.60	119.70	121.20	123.30	124.80	126.75	128.40
20,000	154.80	156.80	159.50	161.60	164.40	167.60	171.20	174.00
25,000	193.50	196.00	199.50	202.00	205.50	208.00	211.25	214.00
30,000	302.40	307.80	313.50	318.90	324.30	330.00	335.70	341.10
40,000	403.20	410.40	418.00	425.20	432.40	440.00	447.60	454.80
50,000	504.00	513.00	522.50	531.50				

Australia II is the threat to Peter de Savary's dream

Moment of truth for Victory

From David Miller
Newport, Rhode Island

Three years ago Peter de Savary, a entrepreneur, with only superficial knowledge of America's Cup racing, set out with minimal enthusiasm and money to coordinate the most comprehensive British bid ever to challenge for the "sailor's cup". The moment of truth is at hand.

Tomorrow afternoon sees the climax of his highly extrovert, multi-million pound campaign, which had been a showbiz analogue of hand-to-hand professionalism, faced with vast sums of money spent with a conviction that the challenger had previously got seriously enough to match the Americans in their own high-tech game.

Now, deservedly, Victory '83 represents the Royal Burmese YC in the challengers' elimination final boat race against America II of Alan Bond. Few people seriously give the British boat a chance, yet many concede that either finalist is probably capable of giving the American defender - either Liberty or Courageous - a difficult time.

Tomorrow's first race is critical. The point for de Savary to ponder, when his beautiful royal blue and gold computerized toy heads out for the start pursued by a 1,000 strong spectator fleet, is whether he has made the most of his expensively assembled resources. In the case of one of the 11-man crew, "it just we've got a boat together."

If de Savary got just about everything right, there is a lingering feeling that he got one fundamental factor decidedly wrong - his

perseverance with the signal-system and postponement of the international selection of the skipper, the helmsman and the tactician, until the start of the semi-final. "We expended an enormous amount of effort in the early races much of which was wasted because people were looking over their shoulders instead of the forward. In the 100-metre, the intensity on board a 12-metre, the emotional and physical pressures and frictions are great."

The feeling among the more sanguine members of the crew, who tomorrow hold de Savary's as well as their reputations in their hands, is that the selection delay lost valuable tactical ground, most not derived from the substantive achievement.

Warren Jones, executive manager of Australia II, paused yesterday in the continuing and uncomfortable responsibility of counter-punching against the New York Yacht Club's bid, his assessment to say: "The British boat has the best crew, the most improved, yacht of the last month. There is no other boat in Newport, American or foreign, which has put in as much effort - apart from ourselves - and ours has been over 10 years and four attempts."

"You cannot parallel our campaign and Peter's. With all our experience, we can use a rifle and aim one bullet at specific targets. Coming at it now, Peter has to use a shotgun and cartridges, to get a broadside, which is only possible if he has a boat together."

"Victory '83 are going to be tough - Victory '83 are going to be tough - and they'll beat you. A month ago we would have had no

worry, but now we won't be able to afford that luxury. It could easily be four/three, six/two. We think we don't expect it to be that way. We think we'll win four straight. If they win races we think it will be on our human errors that we will have let down a superb boat we have come to love."

De Savary's squad are weighed to their best. All yesterday squad members worked in the baking sun, painstakingly smoothing down the boat's paintwork, with the aid of a power sander. Yet, when ironically chosen, the British selection controversy has best speed been given priority over tactical match-racing intelligence? From tomorrow, tactics are everything.

The dropping of Phil Cribbin, one of the most experienced racing helmsmen in the competition, prior to the semi-final, may or may not prove to be de Savary's critical error, and the arguments are still swouldering.

It is a fact that Victory '83 has subsequently raced better, but that could be because any decision that Azurra was a faster boat, only beaten by Victory's superior crewing. So there is certainly cause for optimism, and no reason why Victory should not continue to improve. Whether that is enough to clinch victory in tomorrow's Australia II semi-final.

Especially in that vital 10 minutes of manoeuvring before the gun, has all

been considered before without the other?

The best combination was probably Cribbin and Harry Cudmore, but Cudmore left early in the year because no clean cut decision was being made, then de Savary's crew, with Cribbin, had to have Cribbin/Cudmore. Backed up by Smith/Patterson, on the pace maker, Australia I's lead of two from three was maintained in the first round, but prior to the semi-

finals Patterson, the 40-year-old Olympic veteran who won two medals with Cribbin, also delivered an ultimatum: nominate me or I go.

Smith/Patterson made no secret of their mutual preference, and Smith finished best with Patterson, almost his boyhood hero. But Smith's skipper, Cribbin, and Patterson, called the boat only downwind; and for this partnership, Derek Clark, the navigator, and long-standing colleague of Cribbin's, provided the tactical input. But when Patterson delivered his ultimatum, the crew were left to believe Cribbin/Smith would be the semi-final choice.

There followed an all-night discussion between de Savary and Ian Howlett, Victory '83's designer, who throughout the campaign has shown a preoccupation with speed more than match-racing.

The effort and individual dedication is of exceptional proportions, because few experts doubt that Azurra was a faster boat, only beaten by Victory's superior crewing. So there is certainly cause for optimism, and no reason why Victory should not continue to improve. Whether that is enough to clinch victory in tomorrow's Australia II semi-final.

Especially in that vital 10 minutes of manoeuvring before the gun, has all

Whitaker brothers in fine start

By Jenny MacArthur

The brothers Michael and John Whitaker from Yorkshire made a fine start to their weekend's Hickstead meeting, when they finished first and second respectively in the opening international competition.

Michael was riding Samir Mahomed's Disney Way, on whom he finished second in last year's British Jumping Derby, and John Whitaker, Rodney Patterson's horse, in the class for C H Newton's Chariots Angel. In third place was Derek Ricketts on Rodney Ward's great veteran, Hydrophane Collytree, who was looking and going as well as ever.

The competition was a trial for tomorrow's formidable British Jumping Derby. Many of the Derby fences were featured in the event, including the Devil's Dyke and the Derby Bank. The most troublesome fences, however, proved to be seven, an upright red ornamental gate, and 10, a narrow set of upright white rails set between two walls. Robert Smith's Samir Way was the only rider to jump the walls successfully, but he was successful, but he knocked down earlier, on the course.

David Broome, last year's winner of the competition, also failed to reach the jump-off when Queen's Royal Hunt fence 10. Broome will be riding Queensway Royale in tomorrow's Derby, in the absence of his horse, the last Resort, who is still recovering from an injury to his near forefoot.

Two horses reached the jump-off yesterday. Graham Fletcher, the first to go, has two fences down on Schneider Power Pack. Michael Whitaker, on Disney Way, then set the target to beat, with a clear round in 38.95. Harvey Smith, on Savy Technology, was also clear, but in the slower time of 41.41, a time shared by Chris Park, on Rossmore.

A swift and dashing round by John Whitaker, on Charlie's Angel, put him into second place with a time of 39.85. Paul Schockemohle, from West Germany, the winner of the jumping derby last year was not pushing Daisen hard in the trial competition, and completed a slow clear round. Lionel Dunning, however, made a brave attempt to beat the winning time, riding Boyale, the horse he bought from Schockemohle two years ago, but finished just short of the time in 40.40.

David Ricketts then showed that Hydrophane Collytree, despite his 15 years, has lost nothing of his courage and accuracy, when the pair completed a faultless round in 39.95, putting him into third place.

HAMERO LIFE DERBY TRIAL: 1. Disney Way (M Whitaker), 0 in 38.95; 2. Charlie's Angel (Whitaker), 0 in 39.85; 3. Hydrophane

Collytree (D Ricketts), 0 in 39.95.

From Jim Ralston
Duisburg, West Germany

MOVES to halt decline

Rowing

The men's heavyweight coxless four might just produce a surprise in an event weakened by the absence of the Swiss world champions. The British four is stroked by John Bland, of Oxford, a tough competitor, who has good men behind him. The men's heavyweight four, too, has a strong crew, with Steve Barnes, McNuff, Cross and Budget bidders of Olympic and world medals, but the pressure is on them here to produce the goods.

Miss Mitchell is a tough competitor, although her boat bounces wonderfully when she is moving fast. She gained a silver medal in 1981, and survived a horrific accident after fracturing her skull last year, but still finished fourth in the championships. Time is not on Miss Mitchell's side, she arrived late in the sport, will go out in style, the British have the option, if this is not made course is not invaded by the wind, they should give a good account of themselves.

Experiments apart, Miss Mitchell in the singles sculls is once again feared by the other competitors, but apart from the men's lightweight coxless four and heavyweight coxless four, the remainder of the British team is a mystery. In fact, the women's eight and coxed four,

ROWING

From Jim Ralston

Duisburg, West Germany

The British crew go on trial tomorrow in the world championship trials at the Duisburg Rowing course, and the prospects of the 12 crews are not too healthy, an event contested by 32 nations. British hopes ride on Beryl Mitchell in the women's single sculls, the men's lightweight coxless four and the men's heavyweight coxed four.

Miss Mitchell: feared

together with the men's heavyweight and lightweight eights, will race here for the first time ever.

PAN AMERICAN GAMES

Weightlifter took drugs

CARACAS (Agencies) - The Canadian Guy Greavette, who returned to his Pan American Games weightlifting gold medals on Monday after giving a positive drug test, has admitted taking anabolic steroids in preparation for the games.

Greavette said that five weeks before the games, he had two injections of deca-durabolin, a product he had got from Romanian athletes during a competition in Hungary in June. He said he had also taken other drugs orally a fortnight before the competitions got under way.

The Canadian cyclists also have every incentive to do so, since their visitors are the Challenge Cup winners of last season, Featherstone Rovers. Rovers upset the form book against Hull in May, but Hull will have no room for sentiment tomorrow.

The celebrations at Maidstone were rudely curtailed by Cardiff City last Sunday. Perhaps Invicta were asked to bite off more than they could chew, but the team from Doncaster seemed much easier. Although Doncaster surprised Keighley in midweek, they were beaten by 50 points by Humble last weekend. Tony Cooper, the former Swinton forward, plays his first match for Invicta.

Two horses reached the jump-off yesterday. Graham Fletcher, the first to go, has two fences down on Schneider Power Pack. Michael Whitaker, on Disney Way, then set the target to beat, with a clear round in 38.95. Harvey Smith, on Savy Technology, was also clear, but in the slower time of 41.41, a time shared by Chris Park, on Rossmore.

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Shareef Dancer is valued at world record \$40m

By Michael Seely

One million dollars is the asking price for a share in Shareef Dancer. This places an overall value of \$40,000,000 on Shaik Maktoum al Maktoum's Irish Derby winner. If successful this syndication will set a new world record figure as it is \$3.5m more than the \$36.2m established for Conquistador Cielo in the United States in 1982.

The terms are as follows: a down payment of \$200,000, followed by four further installments of \$200,000 in each subsequent year. The owners will pay all insurance charges. The proposed syndication is said to have met with a favourable response, although there have been some refusals.

The previous largest figure for a stallion to stand in Europe is the £10m placed on the ill-fated Stinger after his retirement to stud by the Aga Khan in 1981. By comparison, a nomination to Mill Reef commands about £70,000. If Mill Reef was the same age as Shareef Dancer, this would place an unofficial value of about £15,000,000 on the National Stud's proven classic stallion.

The reason that the Maktoum's are able to demand so much for the services of Shareef Dancer is because of the residual value of the Northern Dancer blood. In Europe alone this season the 23-year-old prepotent Kentucky-based stallion or one of his sons, Nijinsky and the Minstrel, have sized

four individual classic winners in the shape of Shareef Dancer, Caerleon, Lomond and L'Escarment. This afternoon at Goodwood, Gorytus, a son of Nijinsky, can further hammer home the lessons of Northern Dancer's supremacy in the Waterford Crystal Mile.

Gorytus has not turned out to be the super-horse that his first two impressive victories as a two-year-old suggested. However, on both his appearances this season this outstanding handsome individual has run well in soft going. He finished fifth to Lomond in the 2,000 Guineas and at York recently he looked dangerous two furlongs from home before weakening in the closing stages to take fourth place behind Caerleon in the Benson & Hedges Gold Cup. That performance suggested that Gorytus will be better suited by a mile and like all of his breed he is known to favour fast ground.

Noalcoholic, Sandhurst and Adonijah form the hard core of the opposition. Noalcoholic gave a brilliant display of front-running when beating Tolomeo and Wassi in the Sussex Stakes on this course last month. An 8lb penalty for this group one victory appears to put Gavin Pritchard-Gordon's six-year-old out of court. But according to *Raceform's Up-to-date* Noalcoholic recorded the fastest comparative time put up by any horse this season in his Sussex Stakes victory, so his

challenge must be taken seriously.

If Sandhurst Prince were to find the ability that saw him romp home in this race last year, Guy Harwood's Pampas colt could have to be the automatic choice.

The word from Newmarket is that Adonijah is strongly fancied to improve on his tally of four victories from five starts for Henry Cecil this season.

Prince Khaled Al-Abdullah has every reason to congratulate himself on his judgment in deciding to buy the three-year-old son of his own sire.

However, a good horse though Adonijah is, would surprise if he were to take the pace to match his rivals for speed under those conditions. In a fascinating affair Gorytus is a confident choice to silence his critics.

The Fitzroy House Stakes and the Philip Morris Nickel Alloys Stakes final are the most valuable races at Newmarket.

Guy Harwood is the trainer with the team of two year-olds most likely to threaten Henry Cecil's probable supremacy in the major tests that lie ahead in the autumn.

Lear Fan, Koussillon and Raft are the best of the Pulteney's trainer's colts to have been seen so far. This afternoon Lear Fan the eight-length conqueror of Millside on this course earlier in the month should prove too good for Dick Hern's promising Haydock Park second, Speedwell, in the first of these races.

Charlie Whittingham, dozen of American trainers, won the second Budweiser Million with Pfeiffert last year and this time relies on The Wonder and Erin's Isle. He believes

Veteran can be one in a Million

By Michael Seely

If Sandhurst Prince were to find the ability that saw him romp home in this race last year, Guy Harwood's Pampas colt could have to be the automatic choice.

The veteran's rag-to-riches story had made him a universal favourite and this tough eight-year-old had won the group one money of \$3,706,200 in his 10 months.

He was described by Bill Shoemaker as the American Handicap's regular jockey preferring to ride Charlie Whittingham's The Wonder.

Few criticized Shoemaker's judgment. The Wonder had proved a member of the highest class since arriving from France, while John Henry was well on the way to the course after an absence of over seven months, having damaged a muscle in his right hip.

The prospect of seeing such an equine superstar draw the biggest crowd of the year and John Henry did not let his supporters down, whatever the weather.

Confidence in John Henry increased after the opening two races at Del Mar, California, a week ago.

With Chris McCarron aboard he ran nine furlongs in 1:48.4sec, two seconds faster than the winner of the first race. John Henry has an undercarriage which would grace an Angus, but runs best when fresh and is bursting with vitality, a compliment to his trainer, Ron McCarron.

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American trainers, won the second Budweiser Million with Pfeiffert last year and this time relies on The Wonder and Erin's Isle. He believes



Bill Shoemaker: no critics

that with no confirmed front-runner in tomorrow's 14-strong field, the early pace could be relatively slow, which would count against his pair. Both come late, picking off trifling wins, but The Wonder has Shoemaker on his back and he must be the pick.

Of the four English runners, Tolomeo and Muscatello worked four furlongs in the first round today and closed 49 seconds. Tolomeo went the better, making up two lengths on his fast-starting rival, and could emerge best of the home-trained contingent.

An inch of rain fell here on Thursday, causing the ground to soft, and while Tolomeo finished second to Chromat on an easy surface in the 2,000 Guineas, Luca Cumani believes his horse is best suited by fast ground. With a temperature of 95 degrees forecast, the going could dry out in time for Tolomeo, who looked in magnificent condition.

Be My Native put in a strong finish to take second place behind Chromat in the Grand Prix de l'Amazzone exactly a week ago. This filly broke the course record when taking La Coape at Chantilly in June and provided the ground does not become soft she will take all the beating.

Philip Waldrup in the Gordon

Stakes was found guilty of a similar offence during the current season. At least he has been found guilty of careless riding and could be banned for six days.

'Reckless' Starkey faces Jockey Club

By Michael Seely

Greville Starkey is to appear before the disciplinary committee of the Jockey Club for reckless riding at Goodwood yesterday. After winning the Drawing Room Stakes at Bluff House for Guy Harwood, Starkey was unseated by his colt, Stevens. Starkey was disqualified and the race awarded to Round Hill, who had finished second. Starkey faces a minimum sentence of 12 days' suspension for this offence.

The cameras panned the clearly highlighted the trouble. While Harwood was obviously travelling better than his rivals a quarter of a mile from home, Starkey had no room to room his challenge. Forcing their way through over a forcing from Starkey and Bluff House came no consequence to John Reid and Pauline Stoen, who eventually took the pick.

The owner-breeders, said, "Shoot

Clan's" dam, Unscrupulous, has a

winning record of 10-1-0-0 by

Philip Waldrup is now to review

these two stallions.

Philip Waldrup in the Gordon

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Up to that time Scotland had

been going very well. They had

taken the lead through Leiper who

converted a short corner in the 16th

minutes and they survived the

severity of the upturns who put

three of their players, McPherson,

Leiper and Tom Hay, under

suspension.

The Scots, who always looked

sharper in attack, were a little

unlucky to lose. They had a chance

of winning in the last three minutes

of extra time when they forced a

short corner from which Taylor in

the England goal saved well

in the end, however, a misunder-

standing in defence between

Leiper and the Scotland keeper,

and Leiper had to go long distances

from which England won the match.

Ireland easily beat Austria 4-0

with goals by Burns, Sinnamom,

McConnell and Morris and could,

if they beat Poland today, finish ninth.

Wales lost 1-0 to Poland and must

play on with Austria for eleventh

place.

RESULTS: European championship classification: qualifying for 5th to 12th place: Wales 0,

Poland 1; Ireland 4; Austria 0; For 8th to 10th

place: England 2; Scotland 1; Belgium 1; France 2.

SPORT

HOCKEY

Brilliant USSR in final

From Sydney Franks, Amsterdam

The Soviet Union qualified for the final of the European championship for the first time yesterday by beating Spain 4-2. They could on this brilliant form, put themselves on the road to Los Angeles for next year's Olympic Games. They led 2-0 at half-time.

On the home front, Norman Hedges, the England captain, making his 78th international appearance, became the most capped player for his country. He led his team to an exciting 2-1 victory over Scotland in a classification match for fifth to eighth places.

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Saturday

Television and radio programmes
Edited by Peter Davall

Sunday

BBC 1

6.25 Open University (until 8.55). Begins with 'The Last Paintings'. Then, at 8.55, 'History of Mathematics: 7.18 Colour Television (2); 7.48 Molecular Biology (anti-bodies); 8.05 Colonies' in Reverse.

8.55 Wedded Bliss! Leon Errol comedy; 8.15 The Get Set Picture Show; includes summer sports competition, film, comedies, guest Dig Wayne (of 'Johowes').

10.55 Grandstand. The line-up is: 11.00 Cricket (Fourth Test, Trent Bridge); 12.15 Football Focus; 12.45 Cricket; 1.10 International Athletics (two Van Damme Memorial Games, in Brussels); 1.40 Cricket; 1.55 The 2.00 from Goodwood; 2.10 Cricket; 2.25 the 2.30 at Goodwood; 2.40 Cricket; 3.00 the 3.10 at Goodwood; 3.30 Showjumping (Hambleton Falcon Tankard Title, at Hickstead); 3.45 Half-times.

3.55 Show Jumping/Swimming: Back to Hickstead and, in Rome, the European Swimming Championships; 4.35 Final Score.

6.10 News with Jan Leeming; 5.30 Sports round-up.

6.25 Blake's Seven: Final episode. A bouncy-humour rumour about Blake (Gareth Thomas) (1).

7.15 Film: Only When I Eat (1968). Comedy, with Richard Attenborough and David Hemmings as two con men who try to swindle some diplomats from a new African state. Also starring Alexandra Stewart and Nicholas Pendle. Director: Basil Dearden. Based on the novel by Ian Dighton.

9.00 The Main Attraction: Variety show, with magician Paul Daniels and his Zig-Zag lady illusionist, comedian star Tessie O'Sullivan; The Shadows; comedians Les Dennis and Dustin Gee; the bubble-blowing Tom Noddy; and Max Wall performing The Birth of the Blues – a classic routine from his early days. Plus dancing from the Super-Troupers.

9.45 News and sports round-up.

10.00 Match of the Day: Action from two of today's First Division games. Commentary: Alan Parry and John Motson. Introduced by Jimmy Hill, with Bob Wilson's news round-up and pools check.

10.50 The Roald Dahl File: Jim (James Gerner) has to protect from the underworld his childhood foster brother, now a millionaire (1).

11.40 Cricket: The Fourth Test. Richie Benaud introduces highlights from the third day's play in the match at Trent Bridge between England and New Zealand.

12.10 Weather prospects. Ends at 12.15.

TV-am

6.25 Good Morning Britain. Includes news at 7.00, 8.00 and 8.30; Sport at 7.10; School Picture: Manlow at Showjumping (one of the singer's concert), at 7.20; the Beatles Then and Now, at 7.25; Celebrity guest at 8.10; Aerobics at 8.20. Presenters: John Noakes and Tom Arthur.

8.40 Summer Rose pop magazine, with R222 creator Tom Dyson, cartoons, and Spacewatch.

ITV LONDON

9.25 LWT Information: what's on in the areas. 9.30 Soap Street: with the Muppets; 10.30 Star Fleet: Professor Hagen's gamble; 10.55 Here's a Boatload of wonder dog and a comical schoolboy; 11.20 Space 1999: Brian the Brain (F).

12.15 World of Sport: The line-up is: 12.20 Powerboat Racing (from Royal Victoria Dock); 12.30 100m Fly; 12.45 Netball; 12.50 the Bank of England reviews.

1.20 The FTV Six: From Newmarket, the 1.30, 2.00 and 2.30, and from Newcastle, the 1.45, 2.15 and 2.45; 2.25 Powerboat Racing (more from Royal Victoria Dock, London); 3.25 Cycling (World); 3.45 Half-time football results. And reports.

4.00 Wrestling: three hours from Swindlegate; 4.45 Results. With pools check.

5.00 News from ITN.

5.30 Saturday: Magical fun, with Geoffrey Bayldon (r).

6.00 Happy Days: Fonzie finally confesses his love for Cindy.

6.30 Chips: The two patrol officers have to fend off an attack by war game fanatics.

7.30 Ultra Quiz: The final – back in London. Which of the four much-travelled finalists will win the £10,000 jackpot? This lively and atmospheric general knowledge quiz provided first-class entertainment.

8.15 Saturday Royal Variety: A variety show, from the Theatre Royal, Nottingham, compiled by Lionel Blair. With many new acts: 8.15 News.

9.30 Adult Movie: Joseph Andrews (1978). Tony Richardson's film adaptation of Henry Fielding's 1743 novel, with Elizabeth Taylor and Richard Burton.

10.00 News: 8.10 Today's Paper.

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BBC 2

6.25 Open University (until 3.10). 3.15 Rock Around the Clock: Fifteen uninterrupted hours of rock music.

3.25 Roman Holiday Live: Concert from Regal Theatre, Hitchin.

4.00 Robert Neata: Merley: documentary filmed in Jamaica.

4.35 Rocktop in Concert: Ultravox. Then, at 4.45, Robert Palmer.

4.55 Australia Now: Australian musicians survey the music scene.

5.25 Damon Duran: Concert at the Hammersmith Odeon in London. Last year's best-seller.

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6.30 Chips: The two patrol officers have to fend off an attack by war game fanatics.

7.30 Ultra Quiz: The final – back in London. Which of the four much-travelled finalists will win the £10,000 jackpot? This lively and atmospheric general knowledge quiz provided first-class entertainment.

8.15 Saturday Royal Variety: A variety show, from the Theatre Royal, Nottingham, compiled by Lionel Blair. With many new acts: 8.15 News.

9.30 Adult Movie: Joseph Andrews (1978). Tony Richardson's film adaptation of Henry Fielding's 1743 novel, with Elizabeth Taylor and Richard Burton.

10.00 News: 8.10 Today's Paper.

10.50 The Roald Dahl File: Jim (James Gerner) has to protect from the underworld his childhood foster brother, now a millionaire (1).

11.40 Cricket: The Fourth Test. Richie Benaud introduces highlights from the third day's play in the match at Trent Bridge between England and New Zealand.

12.10 Weather prospects. Ends at 12.15.

CHANNEL 4

2.50 Film: When Comedy Was King (1982). Compilation featuring silent film comedians like Charlie Chaplin and Harry Langdon.

4.20 Come: Battle of wills between a cowboy and a wild pony.

4.35 Well Being: Why cigarettes and alcohol get such a strong grip on so many people.

5.05 Brookside: two repeated episodes (r).

6.00 Hot for Dogs: Dance entertainment, filmed in and around London. John Mills is the guest singer.

6.30 News Headlines, and weather forecast. Followed by: A Wedding Felicit: The Church's role in caring for the community.

7.00 Let the Stage: Acting improvisation contest between Jeremy Sinden, Barrie Rutter and Sheila Hancock and three actors from the Crucible, Coventry. The MC is Trevor Peacock.

7.35 Feelin' Nice: Trinidad: two colourful days.

9.00 The Charterhouse of Pembridge: Part three of this dubbed German-Italian TV version of the Standish novel set in 19th century Italy. Tonight, Fabrizio (Antonio Capuano) kills a rival in love and finds again – this time with Robin Bailey.

10.00 News with Jan Leeming.

10.15 Peter: Mishaps on the way to a game of golf. Final episode of the present series, co-starring Robin Bailey, John Barron and John Warner.

10.45 Saturday Night at the Proms: And it's all-American night, with Gershwin's An American in Paris and Piano Concerto in F (soloist Steven de Groot), and Bernstein's overture Candide. Andrew Litton conducts the BBC Concert Orchestra (recorded at the Royal Albert Hall on Saturday, August 20).

11.50 International Show Jumping: Hamro Life Derby, from Hickstead.

12.25 Weather forecast.

BBC 1

6.25 Open University (until 8.55). Stockmarines and Kontakhe: 8.50 Cratering and Lunar Geology; 7.45 Computing (critical path); 7.49 Brain and skull; 8.05 The Universe: History of Northumbria; 8.06 Cambrian Green; 9.15 Knock Knock: Inside the Dr Barns' store; 9.17 9.20 This is the Dr Barns: an act of worship, from Fairwarp, Sussex; 10.00 Asian Magazines: songs, dances; 10.30 Closedown; 11.25 Farming.

11.55 Cricket: The Fourth Test. Four day's play at Trent Bridge, England v New Zealand (see page 242 at 2.40 and 8.40, 2.05 News).

2.10 Good Morning Britain: Professor Hagen's gamble; 10.55 Here's a Boatload of wonder dog and a comical schoolboy; 11.20 Space 1999: Brian the Brain (F).

7.25 Thought for a Sunday: with Monksignor Bruce Kent.

7.30 Rub-a-Dub-Tube for the two-to-eight year olds.

8.30 Good Morning Britain: with David Frost. News at 8.30, 8.45: Sport at 8.35; Sunday papers with Denis Norden at 8.45; David Frost interviews Neil Kinnock, contender for the Labour Party leadership at 8.50.

ITV/LONDON

7.25 LWT Information: What's on locally; 8.30 Play Britain: 8.45: The Grand and Bunting's crossword drive; 10.00 Morning Worship from St Peter's Presbyterian Church, Newington, County Down; 11.00 Getting On: The OAPs' own newspaper, Yours; 11.30 Star Fleet: episode 23.

12.00 Broadview: Britain: Are the income levels of the poor sufficient to meet society's minimum standards? The second of four much-needed inquiries; 1.00 The Smurfs: cartoon.

1.15 The Big Match: Highlights from two top league matches; 2.30 London news headlines.

Followed by: Living Proof: Story of a West Belfast youth club (r).

2.30 Jamie Lovers: Cheeky: The matchmaking attempt that fails; 3.00 The Fugitives: Solved at last – the mystery of the death of Kimble's wife.

5.00 Sale of the Century: General knowledge quiz, with big prizes; 5.30 Secrets of the Coast: Sungle finds wonderful things in rock pools.

6.00 Survival: Hopping Mad, a film about hares – Brown, Blue and Irish (r); 6.30 News.

6.40 The National School Choir Competition: Another six choirs that did not make the final.

7.15 Film: Casey's Shadow (1977): Drama about a father (Walter Matthau) and his three sons who attempt to run an outsider in a lucrative local horse-race.

7.30 The Sunday Film: My Fair Lady (1964) George Cukor's studio-bound film version of the stage musical that Lerner and Lowe scripted from Shaw's play, with Audrey Hepburn as Eliza Doolittle, Rex Harrison as Higgins and Stanley Holloway as Doolittle. Co-starring Wilfrid Hyde White, Gladys Cooper and Jeremy Brett. Marvelous songs.

10.00 News with Jan Leeming.

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11.50 London news. Followed by: University Challenge. With Bamber Gascoigne.

11.35 Trapper John: Strike threat by the hospital nurses, with Pernell Roberts.

12.30 Night Thoughts with Harvey Gillman, of the Society of Friends.

12.25 Weather forecast.

BBC 2

6.25 Open University (until 8.55). Stockmarines and Kontakhe: 8.50 Cratering and Lunar Geology; 7.45 Computing (critical path); 7.49 Brain and skull; 8.05 The Universe: History of Northumbria; 8.06 Cambrian Green; 9.15 Knock Knock: Inside the Dr Barns' store; 9.17 9.20 This is the Dr Barns: an act of worship, from Fairwarp, Sussex; 10.00 Asian Magazines: songs, dances; 10.30 Closedown; 11.25 Farming.

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One busy day in the life of a girl apprentice jockey

By John Karter

The tale of beauty and the beast has taken a new turn with Gay Kelleway's arrival among the ranks of the professional jockeys. Since intruding on this male-dominated sphere two months ago, the 19-year-old daughter of Paul Kelleway, the Newmarket trainer and former leading National Hunt rider, has swiftly shown Messrs Piggott, Carson and Eddery that a woman's touch can do as much for a highly-strung racehorse as mere muscle. As recently as Thursday Miss Kelleway beat Carson and Eddery with a perfectly-judged finish on her father's promising filly, Gilt Star, at Brighton.

Her trainer, who said: "We shall have to call her 'Scobie' (referring to Scobie Breasley, the legendary Australian rider)... that's the way he used to come and win his races."

However, Miss Kelleway's celebrations were short-lived as the Jockey Club, the ruling body of the sport, announced that they would be lodging an objection against her last four winners (including Gilt Star). This is because, having ridden 10 winners as an amateur, Miss Kelleway had claimed an apprentice allowance greater than she was entitled to (that is to say 7lb instead of 5lb). Miss Kelleway is certainly bred for the job.

Her father included the winners of the Cheltenham Gold Cup and the Champion Hurdle in his many successes over jumps and her mother was a leading point-to-point rider.

Her two brothers help with all aspects of work in the stables, as does Miss Kelleway, who rises at 5.30 every day to muck out the horses and ride them out at exercise before setting off to compete at various racecourses up and down the country.

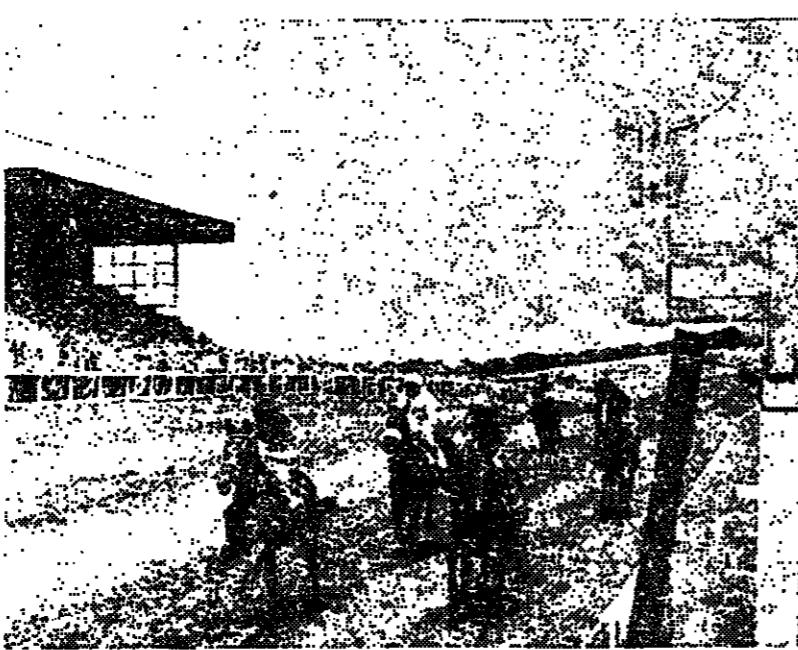
Photographs, David Cairns



5.30am: 'Mucking out' the stables

Exercise time: Off to the gallops

Weighing in at Brighton Racecourse



The winner - ahead of Carson and Eddery



After the race - a word of congratulation, then back to work

Reagan puts off reelection decision

From Nicholas Ashford
Washington

President Reagan has decided to delay announcing whether or not he intends to seek a second presidential term until the end of November or even early December, according to White House sources.

The President has been expected to make his decision known soon after the September 5 Labour Day holiday, on his return to Washington from his ranch in California. However, he has told his aides he will not make a formal announcement until after his return from a tour of the Far East in mid-November.

The delay has once again fuelled speculation about his plans for next year's elections. The overwhelming feeling among members of his staff and Republican Party leaders is that he will seek a second term. Many of his closest advisers have said so publicly.

This view has been reinforced by the President's decision this week to give his tacit approval for the formation of a reelection committee to plan his campaign if he decides to run again.

The President reportedly told his advisers he had no objection to the committee's formation so long as he was not forced to commit himself until after his return from the Far East.

But a nagging doubt persists in the minds of some of his advisers that Mr Reagan, who will be 74 next year, may decide against seeking a second term. It is pointed out that if he does intend to stand down he would delay his announcement as long as possible to avoid becoming a "lame duck". President too soon.

Mr Reagan, who has been interrupting his summer holidays this week by making a series of speeches along the West Coast, has carefully avoided making his intentions known even to his closest advisers. But in his recent public appearances he has looked more like a candidate trying to woo voters than a President trying to explain policy.

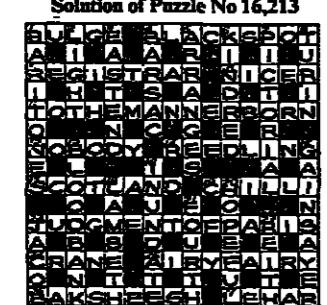
THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagement

The Duchess of Gloucester, as

Solutions of Puzzle No 16.213



The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16.219

A prize of The Times Atlas of the World (comprehensive edition) will be given for the first three correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, 12 Coley Street, London WC9 9TT. The winner and runner-up will be published next Saturday.

The winner of last Saturday's competition was Mr R. F. Walker, Black George, Market Rasen, Lincolnshire; Mrs E. Lovage, Posts Cottage, Heyshott, Midhurst, Sussex; George Escourt, Flat 5, Friend Street, London EC1.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Patron, attends a Summer Fete organized by Gloucester Guardians, in Peterborough, 3.

New exhibitions

Work by Karen Ray and Stuart

Solution of Puzzle No 16.218

Photography by Linda McCarty, at Museum and Art Gallery, Derbyshire. Photo: Peter M. Scott

16.218: MUSICAL BOXES

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